

Public Libraries

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What Can Be Done by a Small Library in a Small Town*

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It is with much diffidence I am appearing before this meeting. But you can hardly expect a great deal from a paper with the word *small* appearing twice in its subject heading.

The work of a small library in a small town must, of necessity, be of a general character; and the work with schools becomes a part of the general work. I have no theories, perhaps no new ideas, to present; but will tell you a few of our practical attempts which have helped give the library a place in the civic and educational work of the town.

"You remember in "Through the looking-glass" the Red Queen tells Alice, "You have to run just as fast as you can to stay where you are." Well, of nothing is that saying truer than of the small library in the small town. You have to be constantly on the alert to seize all opportunities to keep the library before the public and to get your books into the hands of your readers. Perhaps the most important requisites of all are that you know your books and your readers.

Your library is made attractive by plenty of light, plants, vines, pictures and cheerful, cordial service.

The power of your local newspaper in bringing the library before the public by publishing notices, lists and book-notes, cannot be over-estimated in both the village and rural work. Preserving the files of the paper brings your local history down to date.

The church will give you space in the

lecture room for collections of books for the use of teachers, books of interest to parents, and vocational books, and the various church societies will accept aid with papers for the missionary meetings, or, the all important subject of raising money.

The civic association will look over your books on village improvement when its attention is called to them, and you can assist in the sale of the Red Cross seals.

Traveling libraries may be sent to factories.

After the recent medical examination of children in the public school, we published a list on the conservation of the child.

Music will be the theme if the New York Symphony orchestra is to play in a nearby city.

The mysterious disappearance of the "Mona Lisa" called attention to pictures and art.

The county fair affords a chance to display books and make the acquaintance of rural readers, also to post a library notice in the booth of the Agricultural college.

Illustrated lantern talks under the auspices of the library have been carried on for several winters and have become a part of the community life. Whenever possible they have correlated with school work.

Picture bulletins, and lists, following out the holidays and current events always attract attention. A considerable amount of local history reading was recently brought about by a postal card bulletin showing Fort Ticonderoga, Lake George, Fort George, Williams' Monument, Bloody Pond, Cooper's Cave, and the Jane McCrea monument.

This year the baseball and basket ball teams have required considerable atten-

*Read before Library section of N. Y. S.
T. A. Nov. 25, 1913.

tion, and active interest was taken in a Hallowe'en filibuster parade, giving aid in costuming and general plans. Many young people were in this way, attracted to the library.

The Boy Scouts and the Camp Fire Girls should receive attention, and you must be ready with the reading, knots, and codes, names, and designs for headbands. Then they will take up the winter feeding of birds with you and you can boom your nature study books.

An exhibit of books to be added to the library always attracts people, and at Christmas time showing collections of books suitable for gifts, and many suggested lists, especially of children's books, giving aid in raffia work, picture mounting, and embroidery, and having a table arranged with magazines, books and papers of suggested ideas and last minute gifts has been effective in bringing the possibilities of the library before the public and leading to our books on arts and crafts.

In the rural work, mailing lists may be secured from the rural free delivery carriers, and then postals of the library sent, on some of which is just an invitation to call at the library; on others, short lists of books you think might be of interest, or attention called to the Cornell and government publications. Often one house is used for a distributing center.

I wonder if you would be at all interested in knowing how we housed two of our collections? In one home, books were gladly accepted, but the question arose as to where they could be kept. It was something of a problem, as the kitchen was also the living room for the winter. We secured a small dry goods box, covered it with green denim, hinged the cover, stood the box on end, and fitted shelves. A plant and newspapers were placed on the top, and there was your reading corner. Primitive? Not at all, but most up-to-date box furniture.

In the other instance, books were most welcome, but a *bookcase* was desired, as they had a living room. This was solved by a *soap order*, friends coming to the

rescue, and to the credit of the soap company, be it said, the case was plain and quite well constructed. On a certain evening, books were taken out to this home, and several of the neighbors came for a little book talk. Did I mention there was also an organ? Well, there was and someone suggested music. Did you ever attempt to play on a small reed organ in bad repair? If not, life still has much in store for you! And then, shortly after all this work, the family moved away, taking the bookcase with them. Some discouragements are bound to arise! Perhaps this does not sound specially cultured, but our rural circulation of last year was 3,072 volumes as against 1,108 of the previous year.

The rural school work offers a wide field, for these schools need practically everything, even, as one young teacher expressed it to "soap and water and fresh air!" The children in this same school, did not know "Tom, Tom, the piper's son." Think of a childhood without Mother Goose!

State traveling libraries are secured, collections loaned from our own shelves, special nature study work taken up, and flower seeds donated for rural gardens. Then when the rural pupils come into town to the high school they are already among our readers.

An effort is also being made to interest teachers in the reading courses for teachers and pupils as outlined by the department. At the rear of our adult stack-room we have a table arranged with these suggested books, also lists from our own shelves. This is known as the "teachers' corner" and here they may sit down and look over the books at their leisure.

The work the district superintendents are doing with rural schools cannot be too highly praised; and it is evident their influence is to be equally great along the line of teachers' reading.

In our children's room, attractive editions, picture books, easy books, a clean hands collection, scrap books, hand photographs and the required grade reading may be found. The grades are

shown how to open a book, turn the leaves, not to break the back, etc. The museum is always popular, and is used by the teachers for illustrative purposes and language work.

We have a portfolio of inexpensive pictures as outlined in the Elementary syllabus for the use of schools. These are used to develop some of the memory and geography work. For instance, Rosa Bonheur's "Oxen ploughing" suggests Browning's, "The year's at the spring and day's at the dawn;" her "An old monarch" and "The horse fair," animal stories and also the story of the painter's life; the "Shepherd's dog," the story of the sheep, and the "Golden Fleece." All children love Landseer's "Saved," "Dignity and Impudence" and his pictures of deer, the latter taking us to Scotland, and Scott's "The stag at eve had drunk his fill, where danced the moon on Monan's rill." Murillo's "Melon eaters" and other pictures of the beggar boys as he saw them in the streets of Seville, point the way to Spain and the Mediterranean countries.

History, geography, drawing, language, poetry, memory work follow in easy sequence along with the suggested picture study.

Among an exhibit of pictures recently shown in the high school was Alexander's "Pot of Basil." Many were attracted by the tender love of the beautiful face and the sorrow shown in every drooping line of her gown. Some of the students asked what it was all about, and, from a very crude outline, Keats' "Pot of Basil" was read and re-read. Can you imagine, just from your personal recommendation, pupils reading Keats until the pages showed signs of wear?

The library also has handbooks on American history, nature study, and books for the use of teachers which have been placed in the school, and pamphlet cases filled with lists by all our well-known authorities.

Parents are invited to the library and we look over the syllabus and become acquainted with some of its requirements.

So much home aid is possible if the work is only understood, specially with the required reading.

Help is given in holiday and anniversary celebrations by means of lists, bulletins, collections of books and arrangement of programs.

Hectographed book marks, pasting a picture of the author on the title page, and notes in the back of the book calling attention to others that might be of interest make what you might call a personal note.

Perhaps, before this time, the teaching of the equipment of a book should have been mentioned, i. e. what we may find from the title-page, title, author, imprint; then table of contents and index. After this, the card catalog, the index of the library, and practical instruction in its use; also, the dictionary, the encyclopaedia, the cumulative index and the magazines.

Material for debates may be furnished in the form of collections of books, lists, clippings arranged by subjects in manila envelopes, and lots of personal aid. The debaters' handbooks are, of course, of great assistance, but do not give the actual practice of searching out material.

The English classes will require help with expositions, themes, etc., and the required reading. This we arrange in a separate stack, marked by years, also the required supplementary reading. Sometimes word comes to the library that a class is studying Franklin, Washington, Shakespeare or Scott and so among the books we get out Crockett's "In the land of Scott," some of Scott's novels, Shakespeare's plays, Franklin's "Autobiography," Irving's "George Washington," and some charmingly illustrated railroad books entitled "Washington and Franklin's country," "A day in Shakespeare's country," and "The English lakes." Others worthy of mention are "Famous cathedrals" and "Tour in the Wordsworth country." Or perhaps a teacher new to the school and pupils says her class is writing "Neptune, she" or "Venus, he," and she wonders what is the reason. Generally it is the pupils who have not had

the grade training, and so we get out our Hermes of Praxiteles and start a systematic course of Greek myths and legends.

Class room libraries are sent to the high school and lists of books on special subjects posted on school bulletin board.

The ancient history collection, made up in accordance with the syllabus and well annotated, is placed in the high school library. The required English and American history, and general reference work is carried out.

It is our great pleasure that our boys and girls who have gone on to college or university often turn to us for suggested aid. Two young people who have earned college scholarships did their supplementary work with us, and young men preparing for civil service examinations have been given special assistance.

Notes are sent to graduates, and to pupils who are obliged to leave school and go to work, calling attention to what the library can do for them along educational lines.

One young man, whom the factory claimed very young, beginning work as a floor sweeper, became interested in machinery, took up a course in mechanics, securing his books through the library, and is today head machinist in the factory and has recently figured a problem which has given him notice in the field of mechanics. So, while it seems a pity the factories should claim our boys and girls so young, the situation does not seem altogether hopeless.

The library, if it is to stand for the best, and to establish the reading habit, certainly had its hands full with the moving picture shows (good and otherwise), comic supplements and the "nickel library" habit. No one can possibly claim lack of incentive.

And the travels we may take by way of books. With Hawthorne's "Marble Faun" to Italy, or Kipling's stories to India; to sail the seas with Robley Evans in "A sailor's log" or go to Japan with Lafcadio Hearn; to be with Peary at the North Pole, or Stevenson and the South Seas. Egypt and Palestine are words to conjure with. A strange thing happens

—the nearby country fades, the nearby duties slip away; palms rise where the birch and willow stood; from some arched doorway of another world mosques and temples are to be seen, and markets where dark-eyed women sell strange and tropical fruits; and camel drivers, who urge their soft-footed beasts through narrow streets; men and women of a different world!

"Though our ocean traffic increases and new networks of railways are being constantly built, the greatest number of travels will still be by way of books, and the pleasantest journeys, shall still be, without doubt, the journeyings of the mind. When all is said and done, it is the spirit of journeying that is of the most importance—a love of the free seas, and the open road, and the delight of an alert mind in the broad and human experience of living; these we will need if we are to travel far by the way of books."

And where can all this be better developed than in this work with schools? The opportunities are manifold, the work itself only just begun.

A Store Window Library Exhibit

Mr Willcox of the Public library, Holyoke, Mass., last summer, tried a very interesting plan in making a display in a prominent store window. Many of his placards were striking and original, and the whole scheme seemed to me so unusual in just this form that I thought PUBLIC LIBRARIES might be interested to publish an account of it. I enclose a copy of a letter from Mr Willcox describing the experiment, which will give some idea of what it was.

HILLER C. WELLMAN.

If no library has ever heretofore used a store window to exhibit some of its books, that merely indicates, I fear, how stupid we all of us are some of the time. I can't believe for a minute that ours is the first event of the kind.

The thing came about in this way. We had rather neglected for a few months a thorough examination of the recent publications of special interest in the various

classes, and when we set about it we found it easy to make up quite an order list of what promised to be unusually attractive works of all sorts. When the books came they were not a disappointment. I think the librarian's interest in the new books which come under his eye naturally grows keener as time goes on, and I find myself growing more distressed at the thought that so few people, relatively, ever know of the books, and hence ever share in our interest and enjoyment of them. I feel sure, in connection with any good new book which we get, that there are many people in the city who are not habitual users of the library and so will not see the books here, and who will probably never learn of the book's existence even, but who would naturally have a keen interest in it if it were brought to their attention. Fretting over this failure of adjustment between the library and the general public, more especially the part of it which does not frequent the library, I cast about in my mind for some way to put this lot of very attractive books right before people's eyes. Of course there was no possible place to be found except some store window. I chose the best store in town, in the best location in town for the purpose, and found the proprietor entirely hospitable to the idea. He let me use some metal placard-holders; and also materials he has for supports with which we constructed two little book-cases for the sides of the exhibit. The center was occupied by groups of books on the floor of the window space, and back of them, leaning against the panelled back of the window compartment, a support of triangular shape like an easel (which we made for the purpose) to hold books in rows lying flat against the support, though nearly perpendicularly with their front covers showing.

All the books in the exhibit were in roughly classified groups, each row on the support and the groups in the book-cases and the rows and groups on the floor all being schemed to bring together books of a common or related nature. Our library circulates stereoscopes and views, so we put an open box of these

in the window. Then we filled up available spaces with placards.

In connection with the exhibit we printed a list of the books, including fifty or more other titles to round out some of the classes better in the list, and put one in the window with a card stating "Copies of this list may be had free at the first counter inside the store." I didn't keep an exact count, but I think about a hundred of these were taken from the store during the week of the exhibit. Of course hundreds of them are taken from the library desk. This list is proving a success. It is being used considerably by people of various interests. For years we published a quarterly bulletin in conventional bibliographic form. We gave it up because we became convinced that it was being used by few people for anything but the short list of fiction titles which it contained. This new list I determined to make as readable as possible. We used a small sized page, small type and close spacing to make it all as compact as possible. We put the list of the classes on the front page in heavy type. We listed the books not under authors' names but under titles, and did not even arrange the titles alphabetically in the classes but rather according to their nearness of relationship in subject. We dispensed with book-numbers, too. There is considerable to be said for the style of its make-up. If I were to resume the publication of our library bulletin I would put it in this form rather than in the form we previously used. We have already noted some instances of its use for other references than fiction and hope to see more evidence as time goes on.

I cannot say a great deal as to concrete results of the exhibition. It was removed from the window the first of this week. Various acquaintances have spoken to us with approving interest. At the library we have known of over fifteen who, in the short time that has elapsed, have called for particular books because they had seen them in the window. Several of these were not habitual users of the library, and at

least two had never used it before. Only two of these requests were for fiction. I hardly expect to be able to give definite figures as to the effects of the exhibit. The circulation of the books exhibited will, of course, for the most part go on without any knowledge on our part as to what proportion of it was instigated by their showing in the window, the possible influence of the book list entering in to further complicate the question. But such actual definite results I was thinking of less than of the impression we might make upon people as to the variety and richness of material that is to be found in book form, and as to its availability for them in their library whenever they may choose to seek it there. Our city has no book store, that is, no store where any output of the press other than fiction is to be seen, and I believe thousands of the people are astonishingly innocent of any adequate notion of what the world of books contains.

One young man came to the library, filled out an application, asked to be shown books in technical classes in which he was interested, and while being helped by our assistant told her that it was the exhibit which had led him to come. On one evening during the exhibit a young man who is a Greek came to the library for the first time to enroll so that he could get "When I was a boy in Greece" when it came back from the store window, and he took another book for the interim. Another young man said there were three or four books he saw there which he was going to get from the library, and another man, past middle age, said that there were many books in the exhibit which he wanted to read. Direct results continued to come for sometime.

One unfortunate thing about the exhibit is that it was in the least suitable season. Very many of the better educated people are out of town and, besides, few people want to read much but fiction during the summer and even if interested in some of the books would be apt to postpone calling for them. But we happened to have the

new books at this time—and the idea—so we went ahead. Of course it would be well to repeat the exhibit, with other books, at another time. It would be well to have such exhibits in other parts of the city, for there are other local centers besides the main one. If we were to repeat it I would not think of displaying so many books every time. I felt that for the best concrete results the exhibit was too full, tending to tire the attention and overburden the memory. But this time what I wanted most to do was to impress the people strongly with the amount and variety of material in the library, rather than to increase directly the circulation of those particular books.

It is a fact that not a single book in the exhibit failed to have its title clearly readable from outside, even those in the little cases at the sides, where only the titles on the backs were visible. But the matter of the arrangement of the exhibit is of minor importance, of course, though I think we did well to get in the space at our disposal just about 140 books with every title clearly readable.

The placards were made on cards of two colors; some on a pale yellow or straw board with black ink, and some on a dark brown board with white ink. The wording of a few of them will complete the story. At the top of the triangular support or easel I had the familiar words "THE PUBLIC LIBRARY THE PEOPLE'S UNIVERSITY." At the sides of the easel were various placards, a few of them as follows:

The library has books in your native language whether it is English, French, German, Polish or Yiddish.

You may be living in 1913, but you are not alive in the 20th Century if you make no use of books.

50,000 books in the Public library. Perhaps one of them would fit you.

The Library has illustrated books about the place you came from whether it was Europe, Asia, Africa, or the North or South Pole.

It used to be said "there is no royal road to learning," but there has been vast improvement in roads of all kinds since then.

Were you ever in the midst of 20,000 books? The main book-room in the library holds that many and you are welcome there.

Honest now! Have you ever *worked* your mind a little bit since you left school?

The only reading matter not to be had at the Public library: Penny-dreadfuls. Shilling-shockers. Dime-novels. Yellow-journals.

Mr Noah Thingortwo—"Have you much education?"

Mr Liv en Lern—"No."

Mr N. T.—"Do you read books?"

Mr L. N. L.—"No; What does that have to do with it?"

Mr N. T.—"Everything."

And on conspicuous standards at either side were these two:

New books for

THE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

That means new books for

THE PUBLIC.

That means new books for

YOU.

TO BECOME A USER OF THE
LIBRARY.

Walk right in.

Step up to the desk.

Ask for an application card.

Write on it your name and address
and—that's all.

No charge? Not a cent.

No red tape? Not an inch.

"So much has been done in these last days to facilitate the access of the poor to good books. But according to the impression that I have gained at occasional lectures for workingmen on the question of education by means of books, this art is almost unknown among them. To illustrate: I made the suggestion that it was advisable, if one wished to learn some difficult matter, not to confine oneself to a single book but to procure two or three on the subject; and this hint was received as something of which nobody had thought.—*Wilhelm Ostwald*.

The Librarian and the Bookstore

Like the modern library the modern bookstore, after a long and manifold evolution, has become the great efficient organ for the general distribution of literature. For this reason it has a peculiar kinship with the modern library, and a particular interest for the librarian, who, as chosen guide for a large portion of the book-reading public, has come more and more to rely upon the coöperation of the bookstore in the capacity of a general agency for the management of all details connected with buying, and as a place of inspection where the contemporary output is so classified and displayed as to admit of a rapid and first-hand review.

A certain familiarity with the methods and organization of the bookstore becomes therefore a necessary part of the equipment of the young librarian, and it is now the custom for most library classes to inspect several of the leading bookstores and to acquire some practical knowledge of the tremendous instrument on which they will later depend so much for the lightening of their labors.

A recent ambitious attempt to solve the problems of the book-dealer is seen in the new store of Charles Scribner's Sons in New York City, whose library department is always a point of interest to the students in the library schools of the vicinity of New York.

The points to be observed by the library classes in the new quarters may be set forth somewhat as follows:

The class upon entering the doorway is first impressed by the great wealth of light which floods the entire front of the store from the unbroken reach of window from floor to ceiling, and by the multitude of books in every variety of binding, placed apparently haphazard upon the counters or ranged about the galleries which encircle the stalls.

An inspection of the first counter reveals however, that it is devoted to books on some one broad subject, perhaps the problems of the day, and that



within this classification the new books are subdivided into more special groups—the feminist movement, city government, socialism, church organization, etc. As the class passes through the stalls assembled about the floor it will be observed that all the counters are thus carefully classified, and that in each case the various divisions of books on travel, art, nature, religion, juveniles, fiction, belles-lettres, or standard sets are again subdivided into special classifications within the subject. All this is more or less in harmony with the prevalent systems of library classification, although space, of course, permits only of the more recent publications.

A few steps, however, will lead into the galleries and here another point of view, somewhat more that of the trade, but equally useful and interesting, is demonstrated. It is here that a representative stock of all the chief

American publishers is displayed, arranged under the publisher's name alphabetically according to author. Thus it is possible within the glance of an eye to review the standard output of the best houses, to compare the specialties of various publishers, and to gain a fairly comprehensive insight into the qualities and characteristics of their products, both intellectual and material.

This arrangement has been particularly decided upon to facilitate the prompt filling of mail orders, and it will be observed by the potential librarian that each volume has its order-card inserted, so that upon its removal the card may be issued and the stock maintained in its state of completeness with the least possible loss of time.

This glimpse of careful system and organization and other details of method and routine, differing as they

do only by means of their specific object from the more intricate library organization, will prove of great interest to the library classes.

The same may be said of the picture-gallery at the rear of the store, filled entirely with originals of illustrations appearing in the magazine or, book-publications of the firm. This is a new book-store feature and beside lending grace and color to the general effect, suggests many possibilities in a day when libraries are paying increasing attention to the use of pictures, posters, etc. in the children's reading room—and to their change and circulation.

Here it is possible also to inspect at first hand the contemporary output of books, English, French and American—books of fiction, various editions of standard authors, rare and first editions, uniform sets and books in every binding up to the most exquisite work of the French masters.

In the modern bookstore the librarian may lay his hand upon the pulse of contemporary book-life, note its proportions and tendencies and avail himself on an intelligent selection and review with the least possible confusion and loss of time. In an age of bewildering production and advertisement this opportunity for direct inspection, and at first hand, is of no small importance.

JOHN HALL WHEELOCK.

Library Babies

It is not always possible to tell what definite returns are received from library advertising. For the last six months we have been doing a certain kind of advertising which is so limited in its scope that it is possible to know with nearly complete exactness what immediate results it has brought. The postal which is here reproduced tells its own story:

Seattle public library

You may be interested at the present time in the two following books, "The care and feeding of children," by Dr L. Emmett Holt, and "A mother's guide," by Francis Tweddell. You will find these books in the central library and in all of the branch libraries and they

may be drawn from the library for four weeks with the privilege of renewal for four weeks more. The library also has other good books on the care and feeding of the baby.

Yours truly,

Librarian.

These postals are sent to parents whose names are listed in the birth notices appearing daily in one of the newspapers. Ten to fifteen postals are sent out each day, there being during the year about 4,000 births in Seattle. We now have in the central library 30 copies of Holt's "Care and feeding of children" and 23 copies of Tweddell's "The mother's guide." In the branch libraries there are 13 copies of Holt and 12 copies of Tweddell. For the first month or so the postals brought only meager results. I have not been able to keep track of the circulation at the branches, but at the central library for several months fully 45 copies of Holt and Tweddell are out all of the time. We estimate from this that during the year at the central library alone there will be a circulation of at least 500, as a direct result of these postals. In addition, this naturally is stimulating the circulation of other books on the same subject and allied subjects and additional copies have been bought to supply the demand. We judge that of the people who are brought to the library by these postals 25 to 50 per cent have never taken out books before. This is indicated by the number who bring in the postals and inquire how to get a library card.

It may be that this kind of advertising will be passed by with a smile by the librarians who have not actually taken a hand in the raising of a baby—who have not weighed a baby every week for the first year of its life, who in fact do not know the first principles of the science of baby raising. It may seem an entirely proper thing (and it is) to take from the shelves Agnes Repplier on cats and give it to the woman who lives with a cat, or to give "The dollar hen" to the newly arrived poultryman, but to raise a baby on a book, to some librarians as to

other people, what a joke it would be! But to those that have done it, who, when they started, knew less about babies than they did about cataloging before they entered the doors of the library school—yes, those who have raised a baby on a book and have a perfectly good baby to show for it—they naturally think that such advertising is worth while.

CHARLES H. COMPTON,
Reference librarian.

Seattle public library
21 November 1913

The Fetish of Circulation

The writer has observed, questioned and read much lately to find to what extent a worship of circulation in libraries exists. The impression arrived at is, that a big circulation is getting to be the end and aim of many librarians. These people seem to think that this is all that can be shown to a library board that will impress the board sufficiently to get a large appropriation in return.

The *Circulation* is what counts, they say. This is emphasized to assistants, "Get a good circulation, and you will be rewarded." Temptation now lies in the path of the weak; a little padding will not be known nor a few broken rules as to use of non-fiction cards. The report sent in looks well, no questions are asked and those in authority are pleased. So a little more and a little more, till quite a wonderful showing is made, the guilty one is rewarded but no questions are asked.

What do librarians say when questioned as to this? "We know it exists, but we cannot help it, and anyway be pleasant and lenient and we will all be happy together." But what of librarianship, and what of the guilty one? Steadily these things break the professional spirit and real character.

Juggling with figures is juggling with figures, be the figures of money or circulation. If appropriations come as a reward of circulation and circulations are padded, this is surely getting money under false pretences.

Boards cannot be taught or do not know, we hear. The writer refuses to believe this—besides boards are constantly changing, new members do not bring these ideas with them. In any strict, poor or rich, the courteous manner, the kindly heart, the clever brain and the honest desire to help *does* count. Perhaps this cannot be put down on paper, but these are of more help to any community than a report of books circulated, a part of which report is untruthful. Intelligent purpose and kindness will bring an honest circulation in good time. All the people do not and will not read anywhere.

What of the young librarian coming into the work; what will he or she do if those in high places do not make and keep a high standard?

There are many (let us hope very, very many), who never stoop to this dishonesty or tolerate it in those whom they control, but the thing is done too often to be winked at.

The honest will agree to this; the guilty need no condemning. One of the duties, and not an easy one, of a librarian is to make a board understand the aim of libraries is to educate and uplift a people, not to compile circulation statistics.

Which shall be of the greater benefit to any community, the lives of its people brightened, helped and cheered by the kindly, clever help or the number of books issued across the desk and added to by padded circulation to be shown with pride to a board?

It looks sometimes as if this is to be the library motto:

"Get circulation, get it honestly if you can, but get circulation."

A SUFFERING ASSISTANT.

Uncle Remus Branch Library

"The preservation of a great man's home, where he made wife and children happy for nearly thirty years, is an object lesson in the moralities and of very wholesome significance in many ways. It is a monument not to genius only but to the domestic virtues, a guarantee of the world's respect for faithful married love and the hearthstones of the world."

New Titles for Old Material

Editor PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

In view of the circular which has lately been sent out by Princeton college announcing the publication of three monographs by the late President Cleveland entitled "The independence of the executive," "The government in the Chicago strike of 1894" and "The Venezuelan boundary controversy," some of your readers may not have noted that these three monographs, together with a fourth entitled "The bond issues," were published in 1904 by the Century Company under the title "Presidential problems."

A similar case exists in regard to Frederick T. Hodgson's book entitled "Hodgson's estimator and contractor's guide for pricing builder's work," as this was included in Volume 7 of the "Encyclopaedia of carpentry and contracting," published in nine volumes by the Cree Publishing Company in 1904.

ROBERT K. SHAW,
Librarian.

Free public library, Worcester, Mass.

A Suggestion for a Bulletin Board for Periodicals

The following plan has been tried for several years at the Eastern Illinois state normal school, Charleston, Ill., and has proved useful. The materials are these: A sign "New Magazines," separate signs, each having the name of a month, cut from the cover of an old magazine; a printed sign for each one of 15 or 20 most popular magazines.

In the check list the magazines chosen have a red star in the corner of the card to show that the sign is to be posted when the new magazine is received. The large sign "New Magazines," is kept permanently on the bulletin board. As the new magazines arrive month by month, the proper signs are fastened with thumbtacks, in the order in which they are received, under the proper month which is placed directly under the permanent sign. Thus day by day any patron of the library interested in the new magazines can tell at a glance which ones have been

received. On a certain day each month, for instance, the fifteenth, the signs for the month and for the periodicals are removed and filed for future use. When the first periodical for the succeeding month is received a new list is started.

MARY J. BOOTH,
Librarian.

Where Did He Come From?

A northern man walked into our library the other day and inquired if this was the public library. Upon receiving the assurance that it was, he demanded a bath. I knew that our libraries in the South were not up-to-date in every respect, but I was not prepared for this. I did not see anything of the kind when I visited the largest and most progressive libraries of the country, and I want to know just when and where this department was opened. We thought our county work was good, we find our books for business men most satisfactory, and we even dared dream of a municipal reference collection, but now we are desolate! We cannot advertise "Public baths. Waterproof books and magazines supplied free of charge in this department."

DISTRESSED LIBRARIAN.

How the Library Began to Teach School in East Canaan Before!

Less than a year ago in our school of 30 pupils, there was hardly a child who had read a book outside of school. The two chief reasons for this were: first, the children were from homes where books never entered—all foreigners; next, the library was three miles away, and in our school Lincolns were rare. Then, too, under the circumstances, how could the children think of books as pleasure when their only experience with them was for *study*. My greatest trouble was the fact that the children would not read.

After!

I still have troubles—but the character has so changed that they are to me joyful troubles. I am busy seeing that the rapt attention of the boy behind the geography is not caused by Little Lord

Fauntleroy. Another joyful trouble and now a common one, is to have a grade five boy interrupt a grade eight history lesson with an outburst of "I read that (and much more too) in Poor boys who became famous!" If time is lost in interruptions, it is gained to a greater degree in the improved oral reading.

How did the change come about? The parents are the same that they were a year ago. The library is still three miles away, but the children are not the same.

One day the superintendent came back from the office of the Public library committee with a suggestion that we bring the books in a box to the school, and see how it worked.

I selected the books at the town library, taking those that were unpopular with the town children; for instance, Poor boys; Poor girls who became famous; Butterworth, Abbott; Vassar girls; Knox's Boy travellers, etc.

The books at the school, I insisted that every child should take a book home. If he could tell something of the story and then didn't really like it, he returned it and took another—but every child had to tell something of the story.

Then came Library day. When the superintendent gave out the suggestive program distributed by the Public library committee, and wished all teachers to prepare exercises of some kind for the day, I groaned. Another day added to birthdays and days we celebrate! I, with no interest at all, began to prepare the suggested program, which gave complete details. It was so much easier than preparing one of my own. The children who had read stories told the gist of the story and those who had not read, wished they had. Parents realized that reading was not a foolish waste of time. The day was an entire success and left me the most enthusiastic believer in Library day in Connecticut! The day gave just the push to the library work that was needed.

This year we have our library in school just the same. But now I have tried this plan, a combination of charging system and record of each child's

reading. I have taken a common blank book and given a double page to each child and there charge his books. At the end of the year I shall have some record of his year's work out of school.

The plan looked so feasible that the superintendent told the other teachers in the town of it. Already we see a decided increase in the output of children's books in the town library.

Last Friday afternoon, I took a half hour for a little fun. I asked if anyone had read a book he liked very much this year so far. Nearly every hand went up. Then I chose one to tell the story. When every eye wore an eager expression I said, "If you like that story you can finish it in Kelp-gathers" or whatever the book happened to be. I really think that this is worth trying. Children will take each other's word for a good story before they will a teacher's.

The children have their books charged quite as grown-ups do. One returns a book and his friend is with him to take it.

We read aloud five minutes every day for opening exercises. It may be interesting to know that last year we read four books in our five minute readings; Uncle Tom's cabin, Brook's Boy emigrants, Roy and Ray in Mexico, and The prince and the pauper.

Let me add here that in my charging book I have been obliged to add pages for the big brothers and sisters of the pupils. That looks as though we shall soon have a branch library for big people.

If you want your work made easy, your lessons made interesting, and your school happy let the library come into the school.

And please do not confuse us with model schools!

CATHERINE FINNEGAN,
Teacher in East Canaan, Connecticut.

Our good friends do not know what it costs in time and painstaking in order to learn to read. I have given 80 years to it, and I cannot yet say that I have reached the mark.—*Goethe*.

Public Libraries

MONTHLY - EXCEPT AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER

Library Bureau	- - - - -	Publishers
M. E. AHERN	- - - - -	Editor
Subscription	- - - - -	\$2 a year
Five copies to one library	- - - - -	\$8 a year
Single number	- - - - -	25 cents
Foreign subscriptions	- - - - -	\$2.25 a year

Entered as second-class matter May 17, 1896, at the Post office at Chicago, Ill., under act of March 3, 1897.

By the rules of the banks of Chicago an Exchange charge of 10 cents is made on all out-of-town checks for \$10 and under. In remitting subscriptions, therefore, checks on New York or Chicago banks or post-office money orders should be sent.

When a change of address is ordered, both the new and the old address must be given. The notice should be sent two weeks before the change is to take effect.

If a subscriber wishes his copy of the magazine discontinued at the expiration of his subscription, notice to that effect should be sent. Otherwise it is assumed that a continuance of the subscription is desired.

Copies failing to reach subscribers, through loss in the mails, will be duplicated without charge if request to do so is received within 30 days after publication. Later than that duplicate copies can be supplied only at regular rates.

Riley's poetry—Several persons have inquired the source of the quotation used in the November number of PUBLIC LIBRARIES in connection with the death notice of the late lamented Dr Thwaites.

It would seem fitting, therefore, to say that the quotation is from a poem by James Whitcomb Riley, entitled, "He is not dead," in "Old-fashioned roses."

These inquiries again emphasize the narrowness of the knowledge of some people concerning this sweetest of singers of his day. While Mr Riley is deservedly well known for the quiet humor, perhaps fun, of his poems which have been written in the homely dialect of the pioneer Hoosiers, his contributions in sonnets, lyrics and descriptive poetry are finished efforts of a high order. The little volume which was sent out last year, "Lockerbie Street," is not overshadowed for its finished verse, fine sentiment and musical measures.

It is a sign, writ large, for one making any pretension to knowledge of literature in this day, to say, "I know Riley's dialect, but I am not acquainted with any serious verse of his."

A long and useful career—The celebration by E. S. Willcox of the forty-eighth anniversary of his library service in Peoria marks a career of which Mr Willcox may well be proud, and for which the city of Peoria, as well as the state of Illinois, may well be grateful.

He was librarian of Knox college at Galesburg before going to Peoria. The latter city then had a library of 2,000 v. Under Mr Willcox's management, Peoria's library has grown to 125,000 v., with good library service for the entire city.

Mr Willcox has given freely and readily all these many years, of his valuable services in library extension, not only to the city, but to the entire state, and the library cause of Illinois has been helped by the richness of his scholarship, his business sagacity, and his definite appreciation of the library as a cultural institution. His fine character, courteous bearing, kindly spirit, have added greatly to the pleasure and benefit of those who have worked with him, not only in the city of Peoria, but throughout Illinois. Hail to a worthy gentleman and a library enthusiast!

Death loves a shining mark—The roll of English librarians is being shortened by death, even as the same sad experience is falling on the ranks of librarians in America.

Among recent losses of more than usual severity, has been that of Mr F. J. Burgoyne, chief librarian, Lambeth public library, and vice-president of the Library association. Mr Burgoyne was

one of the prominent members of the Library association, and contributed not only to its administrative success, but also much material on practical library subjects to the distinct advantage of the association. He was the author of a book on "Library architecture," published in 1897, and was an authority on English literature, particularly that of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. The English library journals speak with deep regret of the passing of one who was held in high esteem.

Another serious loss to the Library association was the death of Sir William Bailey, one of the directors of the Rylands library, Manchester, for many years. He was actively interested in library extension in England, was one of the vice-presidents of the International convention of 1897, and was always a notable figure in English library circles.

Library exhibits of Christmas books— The giving of assistance to prospective book-buyers, particularly of books for children, has been made a permanent feature of the work of the New York public library for several years.

This year, no less than formerly, a collection of suitable books with good print, good pictures and well made, with, of course, the contents of a high grade, attracted no little attention. The children's reference room lends itself attractively, with its low ceiling, low shelves and warm color, with beautiful pictures, to a setting for books that are suitable for gifts. The attendants were interested in being helpful, wore an obliging air, and had a kindly interest in all who came to them for help.

New York is not alone in its efforts this year. A large number of other libraries throughout the country have the Christmas exhibit of books for buyers,

and the effort, which is a most commendable one, meets with growing intelligent interest, appreciative of the value of the movement. Some fine lists of Christmas books have been compiled by a number of libraries also. Pratt Institute free library list is especially good.

Misleading dates— There is much to be said in favor of the contention of the *Engineering Book Notes* that the date on the title-page should really show whether the book is a new one or an old one, and not merely a reprint, sometimes under a different title, of an old work. Considerable discussion has already gone on in regard to the matter, and the *Book Notes* solicits the views of those interested on this question.

A tactful effort— Miss Stevens, librarian of the Public library of Logansport, Ind., in an endeavor to fairly meet the demand for denominational literature in the public library of that city has hit upon the following plan. She has sent a letter to all the church societies in the city, with the idea of caring for the denominational interests without infringing too far on the funds of the library, and at the same time, to give the denominations a chance to display an interest in the library. The letter is as follows:

"We wish to have our library more closely in touch with all the people of Logansport. We wish to make it of use to every one desiring information. In the past we have felt that we did not serve as well as we should like to the missionary interests of the community.

For obvious reasons an institution supported by all the people can not buy or subscribe to denominational literature. Will you therefore not help us? Will not your society subscribe

for one of your denominational church or missionary society and then announce to your church that you have done so? In this way the membership of your church will have the benefit of all the magazines subscribed for by the other churches and at the same time you will be helping the cause of missionary education, a vital part of missionary work.

Any donations of used text books, lives of missionaries or books on similar subjects will be gladly received. A label in the front of the book will state the name of the donor. Perhaps there is a book in your library that is just taking up room, having served its purpose in your life, is just what some one else needs.

This letter is going to all the denominations of Logansport and we are anticipating much from your co-operation. Please consult us before sending in a subscription that there may be no duplication.

Yours for a better library,
ALICE D. STEVENS,
Librarian."

It is not advisable to spend library money for denominational literature.

A Valuable Effort Abandoned

The following letter contains disappointing news and the situation is regrettable. It seems strange that there should not be 200 libraries in America that would provide their communities one hundred years from now with a permanent source of information of the daily happenings in the world of today. More than that number of libraries are wasting more than \$15 a year in binding material that nobody cares for now, nor ever will care for even if it should last, which it will not. The newspaper of today will be practically dust one hundred years from now.

Brooklyn, N. Y., Nov. 17, 1913.

Dr. Frank P. Hill,
Brooklyn public library.

Dear Sir: A year ago the Brooklyn *Eagle* notified the librarians in this country that it would print an edition on paper containing 75% of rags for binding purposes. This ac-

tion on the part of the *Eagle* was the result of a movement started by the librarians to secure copies of many newspapers printed on a quality paper that would withstand the ravages of time.

The *Eagle* secured 14 subscriptions at \$15 a year making a total of \$210. The paper on which this edition has been printed has cost the *Eagle* \$2,500.00, making a loss to this paper of \$2,150.00.

When the *Eagle* undertook this matter, it was perfectly willing to stand a fair loss in order to protect its own ties, but the expense has been so great and the demand for the edition so slight, that it has been decided to discontinue publication after the first of January.

The regular edition of the *Eagle* is printed on paper containing 2% rags and is made by the best wood pulp paper mill in the country. We believe it is as fine a quality of paper as that used by any daily newspaper in the country. The price for this edition is \$8.00 a year. Upon investigation we find the *Eagle* is the only newspaper printed on special paper for binding.

Regretting that we cannot see our way clear to continue the special edition we beg to remain

Very truly yours,

H. F. GUNNISON.

Territory Represented.

The following note from the Principal of the Library school of the New York public library, is presented here in order that the information it contains may correct any mistaken notion any one may hold in regard to the same.

A misunderstanding of the expression "You librarians here in New York," used in a lecture before a class in the library school, led to Miss Plummer's mistaken impression that the speaker did not understand that the students had come from the various parts of the country. Those interested will find below a statement of the facts:

After three years (or nearly) of sending our printed news (including registration) to "Public Libraries," it was rather a shock yesterday to hear that you took all our students for New Yorkers. I send with this our registration by States since the beginning, to correct an impression the existence of which I cannot account for. Some very inaccurate statements have been made concerning the school, and you may have been misled by some of these.

1911/12—New York 12; New Jersey 4; Connecticut 2; Iowa 2; Pennsylvania 2; Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, Ohio, So. Carolina, and British Columbia, each 1. 11 States and Canada.

1912/13—New York State (juniors) 15; Michigan 4; New Jersey 4; California 3; Iowa 3; Massachusetts 4; Illinois 2; Nebraska 2; Connecticut, Florida, Missouri, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, So. Dakota, Texas, each 1. 16 states.

Seniors: New York 8; New Jersey 3; Alabama, Connecticut, Iowa, Michigan and British Columbia, each 1.

6 States and Canada.

1913/14—New York State (juniors) 14; New Jersey 5; Pennsylvania 5; Connecticut 4; Alabama 2; Michigan 2; Oregon 2; Florida, Indiana, Iowa, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, Wisconsin, Canada and Finland, each 1.

19 States and 2 foreign countries.

Seniors: New York 5; Michigan 4; New Jersey 4; Iowa 3; Ohio 3; California 2; Massachusetts 2; Nebraska 1; Rhode Island 1. 9 States.

The total registration so far has covered 26 States, the provinces of British Columbia and Quebec, and Finland. If you have opportunity, I hope you will correct the same misconception of the school in other quarters.

M. E. A.

The Children's Reading Room

(New York City public library)

What would we not have given in childhood's day
For such a realm of dear delight as this,
Where wrapt in sunshine, beauty, color, joy,
The little readers spend long hours of bliss!

JOHN RUSSELL HAYES.

For Free Distribution

The report of the committee on the relations of the public library to the municipality, presented at the Kaaterskill meeting of the American Library Association Council, has been reprinted in pamphlet form and will be supplied free in reasonable numbers to any librarian or library board where it may be of service. Its use is particularly recommended in cities where the city charter is undergoing revision, or the form of government is changing, or where for these or any other reasons the official position of the library is uncertain or its appropriation insecure.

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION HEADQUARTERS, Chicago.

The Annual Report of Library of Congress

The annual report of the Librarian of Congress, with its familiar views of the building and floor plans, has again appeared, containing much interesting information, from which the following is taken:

It is the volume and diversity of the accessions rather than any individual groups that have been significant.

The need of additional shelf-room within a comparatively short period is pointed out, as well as the amplitude in its provision for other uses than storage.

The death of three especially valuable members of the staff are noted: Louis C. Solyom, Steingrimur Stefánsson and James Q. Howard.

The appropriations for 1913 for the library and copyright office were \$487,805. For printing and binding, \$202,000. For buildings and grounds, \$102,867.

The total contents of the library are: books, 2,128,255; maps and charts, 135,223; music, volumes and pieces, 360,994. This represents a total gain in the whole of 171,952.

There were 11,256 pieces received by private gift. The classes receiving the most concentrated attention and most important accessions during the year were art and literature, to which a list of several hundred titles of valuable material bears witness.

A noteworthy collection is that of the manuscripts of Dr Rudolph Schuller, the well known specialist in American philology. It is the fruit of 20 years of unremitting investigation in his chosen field.

An examination of the collections of source material relating to European history reveals that the library is practically in possession of all but 726 items on the American historical association's check list.

In the report of the Division of manuscripts, Dr Hunt states that the collection has steadily increased until anyone writing or compiling American history

will find here the material for his work, unless the field is a very narrow one. The problem of making this material generally accessible to those who do not find it possible to come to Washington to pursue their investigations is a vexing one, as manuscripts cannot be lent. The report is quite full of interesting data concerning many of the new collections, clearly showing their value to the source material of history in the United States and its government. There were about 750 calls for manuscripts in the department, exclusive of information furnished verbally and by letter.

In the Document department, 43,142 documents were received, and 770 maps and charts. International exchange relations are maintained and the total number of foreign depositories of United States documents is 92. Some special collections are documents published by international organizations; German official publications on industrial accidents and their compensation; documents published by foreign legislatures for the use of their members, received from 35 foreign countries; publications issued in connection with the arbitration of the 1912-13 wage controversy on the railroads in the Eastern section of the country.

The accessions to the Music department last year amounted to 41,406 volumes, pamphlets and pieces, making an estimated total of 671,280.

The Periodical division received 6,679 current periodicals, of which there were retained for binding 214 American and 97 foreign. Newspapers not bound were kept for a varying length of time. During the year, a check list of American eighteenth century newspapers in the Library of Congress compiled by John Van Ness Ingram, chief assistant, Periodical division, was issued.

The collection in the Division of prints now numbers 360,494, an increase of 10,749 for the year.

The report of the bindery is interesting in its remark upon binding material.

The number of volumes cataloged during the year was 107,544. The number

of volumes classified was 105,618. The re-classified portion of the library now contains 1,277,000 volumes.

The number of subscribers to the printed cards is now 1,852, an increase of 78 for the year. Cards for about 45 different titles were added to the stock during the year.

A noted list of material is that published by the Bibliography division, which includes the following: References on capital punishment; commission government for states; conservation of natural resources in the United States; cost of living and prices; federal control of commerce and corporation; impeachment; the monetary question; boycotts and injunctions in labor disputes; child labor; the British tariff movement; Chinese immigration; the tariff of foreign countries; the negro question; American occupation of the Philippine Islands; popular election of senators, and mercantile marine subsidies.

Most of these were compiled under the direction of H. H. B. Meyer and A. P. C. Griffin. In addition to these, an important range of subjects were covered by typewritten lists.

The work for the blind, in view of the lack of specific appropriation beyond the salary of the assistant, has been remarkable. There have been 562 additions during the year of books, magazines and music scores. In its new quarters, the service has steadily increased until practically all the known blind in the District of Columbia are now reached. By provision of Congress, the library now receives copies of all books made for touch readers in the American printing house, Louisville, Ky., so far as these are printed from the government allotment.

The discussion of the project for a legislative reference bureau still continues in Congress.

The salary list for the Library of Congress, including the copyright office, was \$383,004. The amount spent for the increase of the library was \$98,000.

The Library of Congress has issued the second edition of the Class E-F, Classification of America.

A Notable Piece of Professional Literature

Politik der Bücherei. Von Dr Paul Ladewig. Leipzig: E. Wiegandt, 1912.

This book is undoubtedly the most important work on library administration that has appeared since the publication of Graesel's *Handbuch der Bibliothekslehre* in 1902. It is not a textbook nor a manual of technique, but as the title implies, a philosophical consideration of library policy. The opening chapter: "Bücher und Büchereien" discusses the place of the book and of libraries in the general cultural development of mankind. "The problem of the book is an economic problem of the first rank," says the author, as he shows how impossible it is to spread the knowledge of the most elementary matters necessary to the citizen, without books. "It is our duty to secure the necessary influence over the masses in the interest of the nations, through conscious development of the intelligence, through self-education." Interesting, because it touches a side of library development not native to America, is Ladewig's description and analysis of the three classes of libraries: "Wissenschaftliche Bücherei," "Allgemeine öffentliche Bücherei" and "Volksbücherei." The three classes are well differentiated in Germany, while here few libraries do not show characteristics of at least two of them. That any library may reach out over the class to which it technically belongs, the author is well aware: "Any library becomes scientific as soon as it is administered and preserved beyond the personal or temporary aim of the collector. Any piece of printed matter may on certain conditions become a scientific document, worthy of preservation in a library from some definite point of view. Light literature, theater-programs, reports of stock companies may be cared for in a scientific library and find their place among its special collections.

The difference between the general public library and the "Volksbücherei" lies, according to Ladewig, in the pedagogical purpose of the latter.

The librarian of a general public library has no business to inquire whether a requested book is suitable to the layman's maturity or views, but must lend it out. The pedagogical criticism of the loans is the business of the "Volksbücherei." The library that serves a wider constituency must not be circumscribed through a censorship of that kind. It must indeed be very difficult to sit as a judge in the border line and say to those who wish to occupy themselves with a certain subject: here does a work on photography, technology, natural science, etc., cease to be popular?

The American librarian has ideally just this function: he must be the guide of those who frequent the library under his charge, or he fails in his most important mission—but mark, I say, *guide*, not *schoolmaster*.

Of the large general library and its relations with smaller institutions, especially newly founded libraries, this is said:

With a cool head and a warm heart the library with a wide experience behind it, must speak up for a sound realism against misty ideas. Through a thorough training of its own personnel it must take care that it has a staff of highly educated professional librarians who regard their duty to increase their knowledge through labor with and for others higher than the preparation of new scientific books.

Of the librarian the author says:

In a lesser and lesser degree does he associate with men of learning, more and more with those who are not learned, but whose confidence and desire for knowledge it is his function to arouse and develop. A library can now-a-days be easily managed without learning, but not without culture. Not the scholar, but the man with the spiritual culture of the scholar and an all-embracing wealth of information should be at the head of the library.

Ladewig's ideal of the man at the head is high.

He must know how to attend to the smallest detail of the machinery, he must also make it his duty to acquire a clear view of the totality of literature. He must be the master but yet know how to accept the directing influence of his associates. And he must mould the staff into a conscious unit through the cement of human sympathy. He who knows how to educate his staff will thereby be able to develop many ways [to avoid waste in the daily work]. These are not to be found in rules, but result from a friendly, human mind and from experience. The doing gives joy—not the slavish obeying of an order from above. The order from above cannot find what is really appropriate, without the independent co-operation of the whole staff.

Few books on library work tempt the reviewer to quoting in the same degree as this work. The pithy language, the sententious statements makes the reviewer feel that nothing that he can say will serve as well to describe the work as a few selected quotations like the above. In this manner the author discusses the whole field of library work: the building as a whole, the book magazine, the reading room, and the work rooms, the stock and the selection of the books, classification, cataloguing and business administration, budget and statistics. The chapters on classification and cataloguing are particularly interesting. Significant is the following quotation from Schrettinger; in the first edition of his "Bibliothekswissenschaft," of 1810, he had expressed his admiration for Francke's system of classification as it had been used in his masterly catalogue of the Bünaul library. When Schrettinger in 1829 published the supplement to his early work, he had changed his views entirely in regard to classified library-catalogues. He says there:

A general systematic repertory (or the system of classification that must be worked out for it) covering the whole realm of literature will never be accomplished, because in this vast realm new territories are constantly discovered and cultivated and the other ceaselessly modified, moulded together in various ways, their special boundaries now widening, now narrowing; there is constantly a complete recasting of the statistical relations, so that no system, be it ever as cleverly thought out, can fit the general literature more than at most ten years without a pressing need of thoroughgoing alterations being felt.

This is more true now than it was 80 years ago.

AKSEL G. S. JOSEPHSON.
The John Crerar library, Chicago, Ill.

Some Negro Literature

May I call the attention of your readers to "Hazel," a story for little colored children just published by the Crisis Publishing Company, 26 Vesey Street, New York City. The author of the book, Mary W. Ovington, has been working for the colored people for about 10 years. Her "Half a man, the status of the negro

in New York," was published by Longmans in 1911. In "Hazel," Miss Ovington has tried to do for the negro child what Sophie May did for the white child. The scene is laid in Boston and in Alabama where Hazel goes to visit her Granny. The plot is slight, but the characterization is good and the tale simply told. There is no reason why the book should not interest white children as well as those for whom it is primarily intended.

I wonder how many of your readers know *The Crisis*, published by the same company. It is a negro *Literary Digest*, ably edited by the author of the "Souls of black folk," Dr. DuBois, formerly of Atlanta university. No library that wishes the latest information on the negro race can afford to be without it.

CORINNE BACON.

Drexel Institute
Library department.

Books Wanted Free

The Texas Confederate Women's home at Austin makes a request for books to install a library in the institution, which is supported as a home for friendless old ladies.

A New Irish Writer

"Celtic memories and other poems," by Norreys Jephson O'Conor, published by John Lane Company, adds a new writer to the Celtic revival, and one of the few who has a first hand knowledge of ancient Irish literature. Mr O'Conor has not attempted to translate old Irish poetry, but has endeavored to infuse the spirit of Ireland into original verse. His book should appeal to all who have Irish blood in their veins, and to all who have ever visited Ireland. He writes of "The emigrant," "St. Patrick," and "King Muirebach," whose cross is one of the great beauties of Monasterboice. Mr O'Conor was born in New York and obtained his training in Celtic and the first and second degrees in arts from Harvard.

Meeting of Eastern College Librarians

The second conference of Eastern college librarians was held at Columbia university on November 29.

The discussion of the morning centered about Mr Schwab's outline of the Yale method of preparing and accounting for the library budget. He especially emphasized the necessity of the budget, and of its including all expenditures connected with the library, heating, lighting, repairs and care, as well as salaries, binding, supplies and books. The books, curiously enough, come last. Estimates for them are to be divided into two groups, first for continuations, etc., which are outstanding obligations; then for general purchases. A "contingent" fund was recommended and it was urged that the budget having been drawn up, should be strictly adhered to.

Dr Johnston questioned whether standards of expenditure for books could not be arrived at for various departments. Mr Schwab said there was ordinarily little variation at Yale though the division of funds among the departments was never made public. The consensus of opinion, however, seemed to be that it was often desirable to build up one department or another disproportionately, from time to time, especially upon the advent of a new authority upon its faculty, that the creation of new departments and the varying emphasis which universities put upon different subjects, would make such standards difficult to reach and of doubtful value.

Mr Lane explained at some length the plans of the new Widener library at Harvard, which were thrown on the screen, with a few pictures taken within the week, showing the outer walls well up toward the roof. Mr Raney gave an account of the Johns Hopkins building. The plans are made to give the faculty the easiest possible access to the stacks from their offices and have some well thought out points, but the comment of Dr Wilson, of Clark university, that it was primarily not a library, seemed justified by the number of offices and classrooms provided. Mr Raney does not

charge the faculty with the books which they take out.

The question of student government in its relation to reading room administration was presented in its two extremes by Mr Hayes of Swarthmore, who maintained that it had solved the problem completely, and by Miss Reed of Vassar, who feels that the turning over of the authority to a student government board will be likely to infringe upon the privileges of the faculty in the library. The suggestion of a psychological study of the effect of architecture in creating order brought out interesting discussion.

Miss Salmon of Vassar college read a paper on Vacation reading in which she summarized the results of student records kept for her. She finds that much reading is done, that while the older classics are neglected, it is not all of a frivolous nature, but that the great problems of the day come in for a fair share, as well as modern literature.

Mr Currier made a brief report on the desirability of cataloging American dissertations, and a committee, of which Dr Johnston is chairman and Mr Currier a member, was appointed to make further investigation of the entire field.

As a whole the meeting lacked something of the spontaneous freedom of discussion which is characteristic of the New England meetings. The tendency was toward longer papers. The Harvard plans were interesting but aroused little comment or question. Those of Johns Hopkins were radical enough to call forth considerable criticism. As a basis for constructive criticism, tentative plans would have served far better, and it is to be hoped that the day will come when our meetings can have these exhibited. One regrettable feature was that the luncheon, where the informal discussion which is frequently the most valuable part of the meeting takes place, did not include the women of the conference.

Mr Otlet, director of Institute of International Bibliography at Brussels, was an interested visitor. Miss Ahern, editor of *PUBLIC LIBRARIES*, Chicago, was also present.

A TRANSPLANTED NEW ENGLANDER.

**New York State Teachers' Association
Meeting of Library section, November, 25**

The meeting was called to order by the president, Dr Sherman Williams of Albany, with about 40 members in attendance; later in the morning this number approximated 100. It was noted that teachers and librarians were present in about equal numbers.

President Williams explained the plan and purpose of the School-Library exhibit, and extended an invitation to all to see it at the close of the session.

The first paper presented was prepared by Miss Frances Jenkins Olcott, on "Story-telling as a means of teaching literature" and read by Dr Williams. The following questions were given by Miss Olcott as some which confront educators:

How can I tell stories without special gift and training?

What is the educational value of stories?

How shall the story be prepared and presented?

How may it be used to develop literary taste and lead to better reading?

Three points of this excellent paper were that no teacher who loves children need be afraid to tell them stories; the school alone can undertake *formal* and *carefully correlated work* for laying the foundations of literary taste; and that story-telling for the purpose of leading to better reading should be part of every school curriculum. It should be regarded seriously as a necessary course in elementary literature.

The Chair said he wished to emphasize the opinion that story-telling should fill a larger place in teaching literature than is recognized. In the primary grades it should have a place in the daily program. Continuing, he said, that children leave school before their interests are established. The interests awakened through the stories told in school tend to direct their reading and establish their interests. Further, in secondary schools topics of history may well have their historical setting given in story form as introductory to other methods of teaching this subject.

Mary S. Crandall of the Richards library at Warrensburg, N. Y., read a paper entitled "What can be done by a small library in a small town" which was both practical and suggestive.

Miss Martha M. Cox of Elmira, District superintendent of schools, spoke on the "Possibilities of the pupils' reading courses." Miss Cox names the teacher, the pupil, the parent, and the district superintendent as the agents upon whom depends the success of the reading course. Of these she names the teacher as the most vital factor, and says: "Casual acquaintance with titles of books in the school library will not suffice, she must be a constant, interested, and an enthusiastic reader of the books she is encouraging her pupils to read."

"Book Day," an occasion to create interest in the school library, is being observed in some of the schools. Parents are invited and the leading feature of the program is the relating by the pupils of impressions gained of library books they read. Miss Cox believes money is more generously appropriated for the library since the people have this opportunity to see that it is being used to advantage.

There are five organized teachers' reading clubs, which are studying in addition to the prescribed teachers' course, practical questions of library economy and efficiency.

The last speaker on the program was Miss Adeline B. Zachert of Rochester who gave an inspiring paper on "Books our children read and why."

In this discussion which followed various questions came up: "The right book at the right time"—"Does this right time not vary?" "What is the best book?" "When is the best time?" "How is the child to learn what is the best book?"

Miss Viele, Miss Thorne, Miss Zachert, Miss Pattison, and Dr Williams took part and points were made that revealed opinion generally to be that it is not safe to depend upon age, but rather upon individual tendencies, temperament, and environment of the particular child in deciding what is the best book for him.

Miss Zachert thinks that teachers should suggest several books naming items of interest in each and then let the child make his own final selection. This favors the personal element on both sides. To do this the teacher *must know the book herself.*

Miss Zachert, the new president, was then introduced and expressed the wish that the key-note for the next meeting be spoken at this time.

Miss Elizabeth C. Thorne of the Syracuse University library school offered as a suggestion: "Some difficulties of school librarians." Miss Thorne mentioned the bookseller's choice for school libraries which shows lack of discrimination and judgment—frequently the books are cheap, inferior and of no literary merit; and asked: "Is there anything this library section can do to meet this condition? Does this emphasize the teacher's responsibilities?"

Dr Williams thinks it does emphasize the teacher's responsibility, but to meet it she should have training adequate to meet the demands of the position. He stated that but one normal school in this state offers library training to teachers, and that the training classes do nothing in this line of work. He believes something should be done to teach teachers how to select and what to select. His experience as chief of the School libraries division of the State education department furnish evidences of the need of such training. He further stated that school librarians, particularly those in high schools, should receive compensation equal to that of teachers.

The idea to make this problem the subject for consideration and discussion at the next meeting met with general approval.

Announcement is made that the State library school, Education department, Albany, N. Y., offers a course of training to teacher-librarians, free of tuition, at the summer session.

Appreciation of the arrangement and completeness of the exhibit of school library aids was expressed by all who saw it.

A radical departure was made in the plan of the exhibit this year. Instead of having it confined to one room, three rooms were devoted to it in the Central high school of Syracuse, one room each being devoted to primary grammar, and high school libraries. A large number of teachers visited the exhibit and a considerable number of bibliographies and other library aids were distributed free.

Valuable exhibits were received from the New York public library and its library school; from the State education department; the Brooklyn Girl's high school, the Geneseo normal school and the public libraries of Buffalo, Binghamton, Syracuse, Newark, N. J., and the District of Columbia.

The Baker & Taylor Co., Funk & Wagnalls, and G. and C. Merriam Co. lent a large number of attractive books suitable for use in School libraries.

Officers elected for the section for the coming year were: President, Adeline B. Zachert; secretary, Addie E. Hatfield.

ADDIE E. HATFIELD, Secretary.

Branch Library Lectures

A course of popular lectures are being given at four of the large branches of the Cleveland public library.

Other libraries, notably Boston public, St. Louis public and the Rosenberg library of Galveston, are doing extension work through lectures at their main library buildings, but I know of no other library that has regular lecture courses at its branch auditoriums.

We are sending out printed circulars to advertise the lectures which have educational value, as well as a distinct popular appeal. The title of the Woodland Branch course (Talks on live topics by live thinkers) in particular is no misnomer.

JULIA S. HARRON.

Many people never get fully awakened. Go into a large store or factory and watch the people work. Many of them look as if they were not half masters of themselves, they are but partially aroused, mere dwarfs of the possible man or woman.—Marden.

Library Meetings

Chicago.—At the December meeting of the Chicago library club, Dr John L. Lowes, of Washington university, St. Louis, gave his brilliant address on "Shakespeare's response to what the public wants."

In his discussion, he considered four elements as being of vital interest, first, the author; second, the audience; third, the demand, and fourth, the response. In this case, Shakespeare, the author was an actor first, who knew his people and was determined to write successful plays. His audience was composed of average Englishmen, butchers, apprentices and the like, who pressed close to the stage from the pit. Their demand can be noted in four ways, for blood and action plays, with murders, lust and insanity; for euphuistic plays, or, plays of the wits; for chronicle history; and for romance. To each of these demands Shakespeare responded and Professor Lowes gave examples showing how Shakespeare improved on himself in each. But in one respect Shakespeare did not respond, and that was to the demand for salacious or suggestive plays.

In conclusion, Professor Lowes suggests that the demands of the present day are on the whole, the same as in Elizabethan days, that the great dramatist of today will have to accept these human demands in his productions, but he will have to rise above the degrading features and create a lighter atmosphere to which the public itself in turn is ready to respond.

AGNES J. PETERSEN, Secretary.

Colorado.—The autumn meeting of the Colorado library association was held in Denver on November 20-21. The attendance was above the average, there being about 60 present at each meeting and it was gratifying to notice the number of library trustees who attended the meetings for the first time.

The plan of only a few topics and much discussion seemed to meet with general approval and the discussions were more valuable than usual.

The opening meeting was held at the Adams hotel where the members of the Denver library staff entertained the out of town visitors. Manly D. Ormes, president of the association, presided during the formal part of the evening's program. There was music by Denver musicians and the reading of his poem "Hymn of the wind" by Howard V. Sutherland, author of "Idylls of Greece," etc. The address of the evening was a review of Winston Churchill's "Inside of the cup" by Dr Allan A. Tanner of Denver. The program was followed by an informal reception.

The next morning's session was held in the assembly room of the Sarah Platt Decker branch library in Denver. Mr Hadley, president of the State board of library commissioners, submitted a report from the commission, and Charlotte A. Baker of the State agricultural college library, reported on the library *Leaflet* which contains local news of libraries and librarians, and which is distributed free to members of the association.

The first paper of the session was on "Principles in book selection" submitted by Albert F. Carter, librarian of the State teachers' college library. He stated that book selection must be based on the needs of the community and the money available and that librarians should not only know what books are needed by the public immediately, but what the public will need and want in the future. With but little money for book purchases, Mr Carter advocated the purchase of fewer books but added subscriptions to periodical literature. "Within reasonable limits," he said, "the public should have what it wants in the way of books." He also contended that the average public library does not give sufficient attention to what men want in books, in proportion to the amount devoted to books of prime interest to women and children. Mr Carter contended also that it was not always wise to buy simply the best books, but that the purchases in a small library at least, had better be limited to the best books that would be read. He advised against the

purchase of any controversial books in the religious field and said that common sense must be the basis of good book selection at all times. He recommended that librarians with little money available, buy several copies of a few good titles rather than one copy of each of several titles. He urged that the librarians of Colorado build up local history collections and that while librarians could not be tutors to the reading public, they could at least be guides to raise the quality of the books read and to make the book collections of more value to the community life.

Lucy A. Baker, librarian of the Colorado Springs public library, urged that librarians spend more time in discovering what a community wanted to read than in arguing concerning books that librarians thought citizens should read.

Mr Carter's paper was also discussed by Elma A. Wilson, librarian of the Greeley public library, whose witty paper was much enjoyed. She urged the young librarians to discard some of the responsibility they might feel in selecting books for elderly readers and said that she knew many elderly ladies of circumspect lives and moral character, who could read without hurt many books which were frowned upon by slips of girls of seventeen summers. Miss Wilson did not agree with Mr Carter as to the duplication of books and said that in a small library she thought it better not to duplicate largely, but to include as many titles as the book fund would permit.

The topic "Economy in book purchasing" was presented by C. Henry Smith, librarian of the University of Colorado library. Mr Smith summarized his recommendations as follows:

"For economy, purchases should be made in bulk. Transportation charges should be minimized. New books except fiction should be deliberated on if economy is necessary. It is economical to purchase through an agent. Bids on book purchases are unnecessary after the librarian learns what firms average lowest in their sales. The receipt of books on approval is an excellent safeguard against unfortunate purchases.

Auction sales of books are without the province of the average small library. Reliable second-hand dealers are profitable sources for economical purchases. Remainder sales are more to be sought for by librarians than the purchase of subscription books. It is wise to purchase foreign books through an agent. It is wise to purchase magazine sets from some agent rather than from the magazine publishers. A careful study of editions is essential to economical purchasing but this study lies rather within the province of book selection."

Mr Smith ended his paper with the remark that book buying is as fascinating as gambling, to which the librarians agreed.

Rebecca Day, librarian of the Longmont public library, represented the small library viewpoint of the subject and Miss Day contended that the slogan for the small library should be "better and fewer books." In purchasing the classics, she urged that only the most attractive editions be secured. She said that while librarians should buy good books as cheaply as possible, the cheapest books were not always the most economical and advocated particularly the purchase by small libraries of re-inforced bindings bound especially for library uses when such books could be obtained.

Miss Baker recommended that librarians notify their regular agents as to their future wants, as the agent could then secure many bargains for library use.

In the general discussion following this subject, Mr Hadley of the Denver library, stated that he thought it wise for librarians to patronize local book dealers if the local service was at all satisfactory and if the prices for books purchased through local agents did not exceed five or six per cent of the lowest prices received elsewhere. He said that in case of damaged books received by the libraries, or misunderstandings regarding book keeping methods, or bills, the time saved by working directly with the book dealer in straightening out these tangles, was sufficient to offset the expensive loss of time which resulted when all negotia-

tions and misunderstandings were carried on through correspondence. He said also that by patronizing a local book dealer, more books could be secured on approval for examination before purchase and that the good will of a local business firm was of more value to a library than the saving of a few cents in book purchases.

The afternoon sessions of the association were held in the assembly room of the Woodbury branch library. The first topic was "Discipline in the library" and was submitted by Miss Prescott, formerly of the Newark public library. Miss Prescott emphasized the value of the proper atmosphere in the library which would reduce its discipline to a minimum. Some of the difficulties which come to librarians through thoughtless readers were presented in a humorous paper by Miss Phillips of the University of Colorado library. She gave several excellent suggestions to librarians. Among them were "Reprove offenders quietly." "Avoid a superfluity of signs in reading rooms." "If you have rules, enforce them." "In maintaining discipline, show no favoritism."

Miss Reese of the Denver public library emphasized the part of the staff in maintaining discipline and agreed with Miss Prescott that the general atmosphere in the library had much to do with the difficulty or ease of maintaining proper order and behavior in the reading rooms. Miss Reese said that with proper attention by the staff, a courteous attitude, and efficient service, the staff could meet the public in a way that would not make discipline of common occurrence.

Miss E. Cannon of the Colorado College library read an excellent paper on "How to get standard books read" and Miss McNeal of the University of Denver library maintained that personal suggestions in the selection of reading as made by library attendants, were of far more value than any printed lists in existence.

The annual election of officers of the association resulted as follows:

President, Chalmers Hadley, Denver public library; vice-president, Elma A.

Wilson, Greeley public library; secretary-treasurer, Faith Foster, University of Colorado library. Members of the executive committee, Mr C. Henry Smith, University of Colorado library, A. F. Carter, State Teachers College library.

District of Columbia.—At the meeting of the District of Columbia library association held October 31 the principal speaker was Mr George B. Utley, secretary of the American library association. Mr Utley spoke concerning various important phases of the work of the A. L. A., and especially of the work done through the secretary's office and the various committees.

The annual meeting of the association was held on December 10. The question of affiliation with the American library association was discussed but a vote on the plan was postponed until the January meeting. The annual election of officers was held, and the following were elected: President, H. H. B. Meyer of the Library of Congress; first vice-president, Willard O. Waters, Library of Congress; second vice-president, Miss Kathryn Sellers; secretary, C. S. Thompson, Public library; treasurer, Miss Emily A. Spilman, Department of Justice library; Executive committee, the officers just named and George F. Bowerman, librarian of the Public library, Ernest Brunkken, Library of Congress, and Miss Eunice R. Oberly, Plant Industry Bureau library.

After the election of officers, Mr Paul Brockett delivered the retiring president's address, in accordance with the custom of the association, choosing as his topic "Some library opportunities." Mr Brockett's paper was chiefly devoted to a discussion of the opportunities and the need of greater coöperation, national and international, in bibliographic enterprises.

C. SEYMOUR THOMPSON,
Secretary.

Indiana.—The Indiana Library trustee's association held its fifth annual meeting at Indianapolis, November 20-21, 1913. The keynote of this meeting was better

service for the library and better library service for the public. The first session, which opened at two o'clock Thursday afternoon was devoted to a discussion of library legislation. The president, Judge Ora L. Wildemuth, in his opening address stated that the most important work of the association was the improvement of library legislation in the state. He said that if libraries are going to keep pace with all those things that make for social, civic and moral betterment a uniform footing is absolutely essential for their future welfare so all may work together.

The report of the legislative committee was given by Mrs A. D. Moffet of Elwood, former president of the association, under whose administration the uniform library bill was prepared. She gave an account of the efforts to get the bill passed at the last legislature and said the failure was largely due to the indifference of the senate. Mrs Moffet recommended that a legislative committee be appointed to re-draft and perfect the codification bill and conduct a publicity campaign among the library trustees of the state to enlist their active coöperation in the effort to secure the passage of the bill by the next legislature. This discussion was continued by Carl H. Milam, J. P. Dunn, Mord Carter and Mrs C. F. Lammers, a representative of a School board library.

At the evening session, Mr Merle Siderer, publicity man for the Indianapolis Chamber of Commerce, gave a most inspiring and profitable talk on "Library advertising."* The discussion on this subject was led by Miss Lois Compton of New Castle, who gave an account of her efforts to secure better library facilities for her city. Mrs Howe of Delphi continued the discussion and a very interesting communication was read on this subject from Mary Eileen Ahern of Chicago who was unable to be present. Miss Ahern's message was that the best library advertising is efficient service and a satisfied public. An interesting paper, This address will appear later in PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

"The library of fifty years ago" written

by John Ade, of Kentland was read by the secretary.

Following the close of the program a very delightful informal reception was held in the parlor of the hotel.

The Friday morning session was taken up with a discussion of Municipal reference work by John A. Lappe whose address was further discussed by Eliza G. Browning, librarian of the Indianapolis public library.

"Taking the library to the people" was most ably handled by Ethel F. McCullouch, librarian of the Evansville public library. A very lively discussion followed this address and a wider use of the library assembly rooms was urged.

L. J. Bailey, librarian of the Gary public library talked on the library's duty to the schools. He outlined the work of his own library, showing what a valuable adjunct it is to the Gary public schools which have a national reputation. L. E. Kelley continued this discussion and spoke of the work of the small library in its relation to rural schools.

At the afternoon session, W. E. Jenkins of Indiana university talked on "The public library and university extension." He urged the coöperation of libraries in this work of broader education. At this session also, the report of the Committee on salaries, vacations and hours was given by the chairman, Henry B. Heller, of Decatur. This report was based on the replies of 92 libraries in answer to a questionnaire which was sent to 175 libraries of the state, by this committee. It showed that a very elastic schedule was in use in the state in regard to salaries, vacations and hours. The committee recommended that from 40 per cent to 50 per cent of the total library income be spent on salaries of librarians and assistants. It was agreed that too many libraries were closed during the noon hour and during the supper hour. The library should be open at these hours that the working men going to and returning from work may patronize the library without loss of time or too great inconvenience. In regard to vacations, it was recommended that librarians

be granted annual vacations of at least 14 days with full pay.

A motion was made and carried that this committee on salaries, vacations and hours, confer with a similar committee from the Indiana library association and report with further recommendations at the next annual meeting.

The following officers were elected: President, F. L. Craig, Evansville; vice-president, Mrs Newbury J. Howe, Delphi; secretary, Miss Adah Elizabeth Bush, Kentland; treasurer, Mrs F. L. Swinehart, Clinton.

It was decided to hold a joint meeting with the Indiana library association next year. The registration showed an attendance of 50 members, which was most gratifying. These annual meetings are of much value to library trustees, and aside from the benefits accruing to them from the interesting programs, the inspiration derived from the mingling and acquaintance with library trustees from all parts of our state is most helpful.

ADAH ELIZABETH BUSH.
Secretary.

Ontario.—The fifth annual meeting of the Eastern Ontario library institute was held in the Ottawa public library, November 20-21, 1913.

Dr P. C. McGregor of Almonte, president, presided at all sessions.

Two very interesting and instructive addresses were those given by Miss B. Mabel Dunham of Berlin, one on "Classification" and one on "Cataloging."

An address of a very inspirational nature was that of Mr C. W. Casson of *The Citizen*, Ottawa, his subject being "The library as the people's university."

Other papers of great interest were: "Children's work" by W. R. Nursey, Toronto, Inspector of public libraries, of Ontario. "Reference work for small libraries" by Mr A. E. Proulx, reference librarian, Ottawa public library. "Ways of charging books" by Miss S. E. Drysdale, Ottawa public library. "Suggestions as to the relations between young people and public libraries" by Mr C. H. Bland, B. A., of the Civil Service commission. "The best 100 books of 1912" by Mr.

W. J. Sykes, librarian, Ottawa public library.

There was a splendid delegation, there being 48 libraries in the district, and the registration book showing an attendance of 51 persons. Miss Saxe of Westmount public library and Miss Dunham of Berlin were present, though their libraries are not in the district. Other visitors at a few of the sessions were librarians from some of the Dominion Government offices in the city.

JESSIE SPROULE,
Secretary.

North Carolina.—The eighth annual meeting of the North Carolina library association was held Nov. 5-6 at Washington. The association was the guest of the Washington Public library association and the members attending were entertained in private homes.

Mayor Frank C. Kugler gave a warm welcome to the association at the first session, and stated his firm belief in the high mission of public libraries. J. P. Breedlove responded in behalf of the association and gave the president's address, "Every town and village of North Carolina can have a public library." He showed how this can be done even though the library be very small and its growth slow. He spoke of the village library of Pomfret, Vermont, and that of Nelson, Canada, as examples of what can be accomplished in small libraries.

The second session was conducted in two sections, college librarian and public librarians. The round-table discussion of the problems of the college library was led by J. P. Breedlove. "Where and how should reserve books be kept?" was discussed by Miss Annie F. Petty, librarian of the State normal and industrial college. She was followed by Eva E. Malone, formerly in the St. Louis public library, now librarian of the Meredith College library, who gave an interesting account of "Periodicals in the St. Louis public library." Prof Cruikshank, St. Mary's school, prevented from attending, sent his paper on "How may the librarian attract the student to the library?" Each

paper was followed by open discussion of the subjects, and of other problems which the college library has to face daily.

The public library section, held at the same time, was led by Mrs A. F. Griggs, librarian of the Durham public library. Miss Bettie D. Caldwell, Greensboro Carnegie library, sent her paper on "Library publicity," which was read by Miss Palmer. Miss Caldwell wrote of the value of all forms of advertising to the library, and sent samples of the pamphlets, lists, posters, cards, book-marks, etc., which she had used in making known the resources of her library. Miss Petty contributed to the exhibit several most attractive picture bulletins made in the library of the State normal and industrial college. In the open discussion of the subject, the librarians of Raleigh, Wilmington, Winston-Salem, Durham, Washington and Charlotte, gave accounts of their publicity work. Mary B. Palmer, Charlotte, told of her experience in establishing a collection of books for business men, and later discussed the best methods of re-registration. Mrs Griggs discussed "Rent collections," and told of the rent collection in the Durham public library.

The two sections then reassembled and three-minute reports from every librarian present were made on "The best thing done in my library during the past year."

The third session was held Thursday afternoon. Miss Leatherman asked for the appointment of a committee on closer co-operation between the association and the commission. Miss Palmer was made chairman of that committee.

The following officers were elected for the next year: President, Annie F. Petty, State normal and industrial college; first vice-president, J. Frank Wilkes, Charlotte; second vice-president, Bettie D. Caldwell, Carnegie library, Greensboro; treasurer, Mrs A. F. Griggs, Public library, Durham; secretary, Mary B. Palmer, Charlotte.

Miss Leatherman presented an invitation to the association to hold its next meeting in Raleigh. The invitation came

from the Commission, the Olivia Raney library, Miss Rosenthal and the Meredith College library. The question was referred to the executive committee.

The last session was held Thursday evening. Miss Leatherman spoke on "The dissemination of books," stressing the peculiar rural problem of the North Carolina library movement. The last legislature made a small appropriation for traveling libraries, thus enabling the commission to begin the work of sending out traveling libraries in addition to the debate libraries it has been lending for the past two years.

Mr Breedlove introduced Mr George B. Utley, secretary of the American Library Association, who spoke on "What should a public library mean to a community?" He told of his pleasure in returning to the South where he had lived for 10 years. He said that a public library should be an institution for both young and old, and spoke of the work with foreigners, workingmen, business men and legislators. A library should be an institution free to all. There are many people in every community who are never reached by the public library. Librarians should observe the methods of business men and adapt them for library use. The library should be a storehouse of local history. Much material which will be valuable to the historian should be preserved in libraries. The library should be a place of wholesome recreation, acting as a counter attraction to vicious shows and other harmful amusements. Finally, the library should strive to disseminate a taste for good books in the community and should inspire the people to have libraries of their own.

Dr Louis R. Wilson, librarian of the State university, spoke on "The library in community building," telling of the ideas current in North Carolina today, of the men who are working out these ideas and of the relation of the library to them.

The resolutions committee made its report, and a vote of appreciation was passed, thanking Mr Utley and the Washington Public library association.

The Association was the guest at a delightful reception held at the home of Mrs C. L. Baugham. The courtesy and hospitality of Washington people were much appreciated by the members of the association and added much to the success of the meeting.

MARY B. PALMER, Secretary.

South Dakota.—The seventh annual meeting of the State library association was held at Sioux Falls, Nov. 24-26, 1913.

At the first session, on Tuesday morning, Miss Laurson, presiding, Doane Robinson, secretary of the new state library commission, gave a most encouraging report of the work accomplished in the few months since the library law has been in force. The State department of education turned over to the commission 2,200 volumes, the Federation of women's clubs gave 300 more, and enough additional books were purchased to equip 50 traveling libraries, which were sent out the first of September. Another 50 will be made ready early in 1914, and for 25 of these, applications are already on file. Lilly M. E. Borreson has been appointed field librarian through the recommendation of Wisconsin and Minnesota library workers.

Mrs Schmidt of Watertown then gave "Items of general interest pertaining to libraries and librarians," a series of clippings gathered through the year, most interesting and stimulating.

The plans for a librarian's reading circle were discussed and a committee appointed to report later. Mr Powers of Brookings college reported the A. L. A. meeting of last summer which he attended as the representative of the South Dakota library commission.

Miss Borreson gave informally an account of the work so far accomplished by the library commission, and those listening felt that a good foundation has been laid for future work.

The matter of South Dakota's being represented on the A. L. A. council was decided favorably. The association was entertained at luncheon by the Sioux Falls board of library trustees.

At the afternoon session, the president's address was first on the program. It was based upon two statements of the Apostle Paul—"This one thing I do," and "I magnify my office." Miss Laurson thought Paul would have made a good librarian, and gave her reasons.

Miss Borreson then took charge of the "Round table for small libraries," during which the following topics were discussed: Accessioning, by Miss McRoberts of Hot Springs; Shelf list and inventory, by Miss McIntire of Huron college; Charging systems; Necessary records and how to keep them.

At the Wednesday morning session Mr Powers reported the reading circle plans, part of which are as follows:

1. Members shall be arranged as far as possible in groups of fours.

2. Each group shall read four books during the year, one member in each group being responsible for obtaining one book.

3. Each reader is to prepare a letter on each book read, though the letter is not to be confined to the book but may express any ideas on library matters, or comment on local affairs; this letter is to be sent at the time the book is sent, to the next person on the circuit.

4. The dates of exchange are January 1, February 15, April 1 and May 15, 1914.

5. Each circuit is to read Kenneth Grahame's "The golden age," and Bostwick's American public libraries, and will select the two remaining books for its use.

From time to time in the *Bulletin* will be published studies and outlines about the books.

The report was adopted and four circuits were formed at once.

Miss Borreson then discussed the topic, "Trustees; their relations to the librarian; duties; organization," giving the benefit of her experience and comments upon the conditions in libraries in this state.

Miss Thatcher's paper on "The library budget," was helpful.

There was some discussion on the change in form and policy of several magazines and the secretary was instructed to write certain publishers, stating the objections of the association to reading matter and advertising upon the same page, and to having the size of a magazine changed in the middle of a volume.

The new officers are: President, Miss Nettie L. Current, Sioux Falls; vice-president, Miss Katherine D. Steele, Lead; secretary-treasurer, Miss Helen E. Miner of Yankton college. Miss Borreson, Pierre, was elected alternate member of the A. L. A. council. The legislative committee is Doane Robinson, Pierre; W. H. Powers, Brookings; Miss Borreson and Mrs Carter, Pierre.

MAUD RUSSELL CARTER,
Secretary.

Colorado Library Commission

At the first meeting of the newly reorganized State board of library commissioners of Colorado, coöperation was effected between this commission and the members of the Colorado civil service board. Examinations for vacancies in Colorado institutions will be held in December and the Library commissioners were asked by the civil service board to prepare the examination questions to be used in the state examinations and also correct the examination papers submitted by applicants.

There will be three sets of questions, one for a vacancy in the library of the State school of mines, one for applicants for positions paying \$100 a month or over, and a third set for applicants for positions paying less than \$100 a month.

It was decided by the Library commissioners to conduct an investigation in Colorado regarding the work done by libraries for schools. It was decided to use a modified form of the questionnaire issued by the Ohio State survey commission on library coöperation with schools, which questionnaire was prepared by the New York bureau of municipal research.

While no money is available for the Library commission's activities, the commission decided to use the Colorado library *Leaflet* as a means of securing all the annual reports of Colorado libraries, which reports will be filed by the commission for future use.

Individual members of the commission also agreed that in lieu of a paid field worker, the members would visit Colorado libraries as opportunity came, to encourage the library work and to increase the efficiency in this work.

The officers elected were, President, Chalmers Hadley, Denver public library; secretary, Miss Charlotte A. Baker, State Agricultural College library.

Interesting Things in Print

Questions for debate and public discussion in school societies are to be found in the October number of the *Bulletin* of the University of Wisconsin extension division.

The December *Bulletin* of the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh contains a very interesting article, "Some of Pittsburgh's earliest libraries," by A. L. Hardy. The library service began in the earlier part of the nineteenth century.

The Russell Sage Foundation library, in its October, 1913 *Bulletin*, says of its adoption of the Decimal classification:

'The Dewey classification is international, and more people are familiar with it than any other, so that the majority of students and investigators familiar with any library are familiar with this classification. Furthermore, it is for the most part logical, and makes it possible to correlate the various parts or collections of a highly specialized library.'

The Public library of Worcester, Mass., issued a Christmas bookmark with pertinent items about the library and its readiness to serve the people on it. Under the title, "Some of our attractions," were about 75 stories grouped under subjects.

The Public library of the District of Columbia has begun the preparation of

a *Social Service Bulletin*. The issue will be of special interest to the organized workers of Washington City, of which there are 400. In starting, the *Bulletin* states, "The Public library desires to be, and tries to be, known as an efficient social service institution." The first topic covered by the *Bulletin* is the proposed survey of Washington with a select bibliography from magazine literature on Surveys.

No. 1 of Volume 2 of *The Miscellany* from Baroda, India, contains exceedingly interesting and helpful library ideas. Under "Library notes and comments" are a collection of suggestive ideas. "The public library as a factor of social life," by N. M. Joshi, B. A., is library doctrine of the first value.

Mr J. S. Kudalkar, M. A., LL. B., editor of *The Library Miscellany*, is traveling at this time in the United States, visiting libraries in preparation to taking up the work of Director of libraries laid down last year by Mr Borden.

The Education committee of the Wisconsin woman's suffrage association, of which Miss L. E. Stearns, of the Wisconsin library commission, is a member, has issued a pamphlet, "Social forces: a topical outline of bibliography."

Social and governmental questions of the day are analyzed and outlined with reference to material dealing with the subject under discussion.

Directions for the development of clubs, dealing with problems of modern civic life, are also given.

There is a tremendous lot of material of high grade, but it must be confessed that the arrangement is a little confusing. A more logical and definite grouping of the contents of the pamphlet would add to its value, though doubtless one deeply interested in the movement treated would be willing to dig for his material, and there is good material to be dug for in "Social forces."

W. C. Berwick Sayers, of the Croydon public library, England, has gathered together charming bits of description, musing and philosophy, under the

title, "Over some Alpine passes: Memories of 1908."

To one who has been over the route which he traces, the little booklet brings much pleasure. To one who has not, it may tempt to "go and do likewise."

One can hardly refrain from wishing Mr Sayers had put his memories in larger type and less crowded pages, for the sake of one's eyesight. But the pleasure it gives to read it makes up in a measure for the eye strain of perusal.

The University of Illinois library has recently issued a twenty-page bulletin entitled: "Books of Jewish interest in the Library of the University of Illinois." This list, compiled by Dr D. S. Blondheim of the Romance department of the university, and prepared for the press by the library staff, contains some 500 titles, alphabetically arranged, and is intended mainly to help those using the University library who may be interested in Jewish literature and history and who may have difficulty in finding all the books on that subject now in the library. For this reason call numbers are given with each title. The nucleus of the collection is formed by the books bought during the past year from the fund given for this purpose by District Grand Lodge No. 6, of the Independent Order of B'nai B'rith; there have been added a number of books presented to the library by individual members by the same order, and a number purchased by the library, so that a very good beginning of a collection of Jewish books has been made.

The Chicago public library is second in point of circulation of the libraries of the United States, and is twenty-sixth in per capita cost. New York City and Brooklyn have much larger incomes, and Pittsburg, Cleveland, St. Louis and Buffalo have almost as much.

There are 26 branch libraries in Chicago, most of them in small parks and playgrounds; only two of them are in buildings of their own, both endowed. New York has 48 branch buildings, Brooklyn, 24, and Philadelphia, 22. Twelve branches in manufacturing and commercial plants are sustained.

Library Schools**Carnegie library of Pittsburgh****Training school for children's librarians**

During the last month the following special lectures have been given:

Nov. 22. Two lectures, "The librarian as an educator" and "Some applications" by Miss Louise Connolly, Educational expert of the Free public library, Newark, New Jersey.

Nov. 29. "Changing aspects of education" by Miss Ella Hanlon, principal of the Shakespeare school, Pittsburgh.

Dec. 5. Two lectures upon High school library work by Miss Mary E. Hall of the Girls' high school, Brooklyn, New York. One of these lectures was open to invited guests and a number of the high school principals and teachers attended it.

Mrs Gudrun Thorne-Thomsen of Riverside, Illinois, spent the week of December 8 at the school and gave 10 lectures of the course she gives every year upon Story-telling. On the evening of December 12, she conducted a most delightful Christmas story hour for grown people in the auditorium of the Homewood branch library.

Agnes Cuffe, '15, has left the school because of ill health and is at her home in Watertown, New York.

Alumni notes

Helen M. Middleton, '08, is now Mrs Frederick Truman Chittenden. Her address is 430 Woodside Ave., Ripon, Wisconsin.

Margaret Louise Bateman, '10, has resigned because of ill health, from her position in the Public library in Oak Park, Illinois.

Irene Moore, class of 1910, is temporarily upon the staff of the Public library in Oak Park, Illinois.

Clara May Mooney, '12, has resigned from her position in the children's department of the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh to become librarian of a branch of the Public library, Detroit, Mich.

Edith R. Morse, '14, has resigned from her position as librarian in the Young Women's Christian Association to be-

come children's librarian in the Ballard branch of the Seattle public library.

Eva Cloud, '14, has resigned from her position as children's librarian in the Public library, Council Bluffs, Iowa, to become librarian of the Public library, Kewanee, Illinois.

Drexel institute

Dr Hollis Godfrey became president of Drexel institute on December 1, succeeding Dr James MacAlister, who resigned in June, 1913.

Dr Godfrey was educated at Tufts college and Massachusetts institute of technology, and was for some time head of the department of science of the School of practical arts, Boston; was brought to Philadelphia from New England by the Blankenburg administration to take charge of the bureau of gas in October, 1912, and developed in that bureau a high state of efficiency. He has been associated with Frederick W. Taylor, the eminent efficiency engineer. Scientists know him as an expert and authority on municipal engineering and industrial hygiene, and as an author of books on chemistry, on laboratory work, and on public health. The general public knows him as a contributor to the *Atlantic Monthly* and other magazines. For some years Dr Godfrey wrote regularly on science for the Boston *Transcript*.

The following lectures have been given by outside librarians since November 17:

Book mending, Miss Sara L. Young.

The Library of Congress, Dr Herbert Putnam.

The fifth kingdom and the keeper of its treasures, Miss M. E. Ahern.

The work of a county library, Miss Mary L. Titcomb.

The Pennsylvania public library, Miss Anna A. Macdonald.

Examinations were held in accession and order work, December 17; loan work, December 22; classification, December 23.

The Christmas vacation began December 21 and ended January 4.

January 5-8 inclusive were spent by the students in practice work at the

Free library of Philadelphia and five of its branches.

Dr James MacAllister, who resigned from the presidency in June, 1913, died at sea, December 11, on his way to Bermuda.

Louise W. Rodgers, 1913, has resigned her position in the Free library of Philadelphia to take the clerkship of the Genealogical society of Pennsylvania.

Alumnae notes

The Drexel Institute library school association held its annual meeting on the evening of November 24. The usual business was transacted and after a brief discussion, it was decided to take the vote of the association at the spring meeting on the question of extending the terms of the officers to two years, the consensus of opinion being that it takes nearly a year for the officers to get their work well in hand.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, Miss R. Louise Keller; vice - president, Miss Edith Fulton; treasurer, Miss Caroline B. Perkins; secretary, Miss Katherine B. Trimble.

After the business meeting, an informal reception was held for the class of 1914. Miss Bacon, Miss Dougherty and Miss Doane contributed to its gaiety by readings from different authors unknown, for the most part, even in this gathering of librarians.

CORINNE BACON,
Director.

New York public library

Lecturers have spoken before the school since November 12, the date of our last report, as follows:

To senior classes:

School and college course,—Prof Willard Austen (Cornell University library) two lectures on Training in books in colleges, and Courses of bibliography in colleges.

Isadore G. Mudge (Columbia University library), six lectures with problems and quiz on The college reference library. Advanced reference and cataloging course, —Prof Austen's second lecture. Ruth S. Granniss (Grolier Club library)—What makes old books interesting. Henrietta Bartlett (cataloger of church and other

collections), six lectures with problems and quiz on Bibliography, followed by a visit to Mr Beverly Chew's collection.

This class has had some brief instruction in the calendering of manuscripts. Administration course, — Annie Carroll Moore, (N. Y. P. L.) on Book-selection for the children's room.

Agnes Cowing, (Pratt Institute free library), on the Christmas book-exhibit for children, followed by a visit to the exhibits in the Pratt Institute library's and the New York public library's children's rooms, and visits to the Christmas exhibits of books in the leading book stores of the city.

Anna C. Tyler, Christmas story telling, and Christmas bulletins and posters.

To junior classes:

Mary E. Hall (Girls' high school library, Brooklyn), Sarah E. Annett (Washington Irving high school library), and Maud McClelland (Passaic public library's high school branch), in a symposium on the High school and general culture, Planning a high school library, and High school training in the use of books.

Herbert Putnam, on Copyright, and the Library of Congress.

Zaidee Brown (Massachusetts library commission), on Library accounts.

Mary Eileen Ahern (PUBLIC LIBRARIES), on Library conditions in the Middle-West.

Henry M. Leipziger (N. Y. Board of Education) on Public school extension.

C. C. Williamson (N. Y. P. L.), two lectures on The literature of political science.

Annie C. Moore (N. Y. P. L.), on The work for children in the N. Y. P. L.

Eleanor B. Woodruff (Pratt Institute free library), on The problems of the reference librarian.

The seniors in administration have chosen the following as subjects of theses:

Miss Greene: Illustrators of children's books.

Miss Johnston: Study of a city neighborhood as a basis for branch administration.

Miss Miltimore: History of the library commission.

Miss Osborn: Comparison of editions of ten standard authors.

Miss Watson: Translators and translations.

Miss Wilson: Comparison of editions of ten standard authors.

Miss Young: Is the public library educating public taste?

Mrs Ludey: Study of suburban community as a basis for library administration.

Mr Goodell: Efficiency in library management.

Mr Metcalf: Management of a stack-room.
Mr Spaulding: Study of a city neighborhood as a basis for administration.

Nearly all the students attended the December meeting of the New York library club, at which Mr Alfred Noyes spoke and read.

Two graduates and five senior students assisted in receiving the visiting librarians whom the principal and faculty entertained at tea on December 1. The guests represented libraries as far east as Boston and Providence, as far north as Montreal, and as far west as Harrisburg, Pa. A number of the staff of the Central library were asked to meet the visitors.

The week of December 15 was devoted to reviews and examinations broken only by the principal's Christmas Kaffee Klatsch on December 17.

The school is supplying desk and storage-room to the committee on the Leipzig exhibit, being headquarters for Miss Mary E. Robbins of the committee.

The annual report of the school for the year 1912-13 is just out. The publication of *Library School Notes*, as a monthly medium of communication with graduates and departed students, has recently been undertaken, the second number being in press. There will be 10 numbers per year.

MARY W. PLUMMER, Principal.

New York state library

Layton S. Hawkins, specialist in agricultural education for the University of the State of New York, gave an interesting talk on "Books on agriculture for the public library," November 17. In addition to defining and describing the different types of these works. Mr Hawkins illustrated his talk by a selected collection of good agricultural books.

November 21, Dr Herbert Putnam talked to the school on the Library of Congress and its work. In a second talk on "Library constitutions," Dr Putnam discussed several fundamental phases of library administration, among them the duties of trustees and the relation of the librarian to his trustees and to his staff.

On December 10, Mary Eileen Ahern of PUBLIC LIBRARIES described "Library conditions in the middle west," treating of the general library situation in Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin and Illinois.

The students had the pleasure of meeting Dr Putnam and Dr Pliny T. Sexton, vice-chancellor of the University of the State of New York at an informal tea at the conclusion of Dr Putnam's lecture and the further pleasure of meeting Miss Ahern at a similar tea on the afternoon of her visit to the school.

The junior class has inaugurated a series of Saturday afternoon walks covering the country adjacent to Albany, open to both classes.

During the month the following appointments were reported to the school:

Ruby Charlton, '11-'12, assistant librarian, Iowa State teachers' college, Cedar Falls.

J. Howard Dice, B. L. S. '13, substitute assistant, Mount Washington branch, Carnegie library, Pittsburgh.

Mary P. Parsons, B. L. S. '13, assistant, Public catalog room, New York public library. Miss Parsons has been connected with the reference section of the New York State library since October, 1912.

Mary E. Robbins, '92, instructor in classification and cataloging in the short library course held during January and February at the Riverside (Cal.) public library. Miss Robbins spent December in collecting and preparing material for the American library exhibit to be held in Leipzig during the summer of 1914.

Helen E. Vogleson, '03-'04, supervisor of the County extension department of the Santa Barbara (Cal.) public library. Miss Vogleson has been librarian of the Mount Washington branch of the Carnegie library, Pittsburgh, since 1908.

F. K. WALTER.

Pratt institute

The charts visually presenting library work that were prepared for the institute

exhibition last year have been itinerating this fall in response to requests. They were loaned to the Syracuse and Western Reserve library schools, and at present they are assisting at the opening of the Public library, Somerville, Mass.

One of the advantages accruing to the school from its connection with Pratt institute is attendance upon the general lectures of the institute. Several of the class are taking a course in the History of art given by the director of the School of fine arts. Recently the class heard Edith Wynn Matthison who read "Sister Beatrice" before the institute students.

Three unusually happy coincidences occurred during the past month. Dr. Putnam happened to be in New York and talked to the class a day or two after the Congressional library had been reported on in the "Survey of the field;" Mr Kudalkar of Baroda, India, visited the class-room just as the classification of a group of books bearing on India were under discussion, and spoke on the relations of the orders, the Vedanta philosophy and Brahmanism; and lastly Mr F. W. Faxon happened in just after a lesson on the cataloging of periodicals and talked to the class about the periodical department of the Boston Book Company.

The students were invited to attend a staff meeting of the Brooklyn public library at which the evening in the Orient that was enjoyed at the New York state meeting was repeated, Mr and Mrs Borden and Mr Kudalkar taking part.

Miss Mary Eileen Ahern lectured before the school on December 2 on "The library situation in the Middle West." In breadth of treatment and first-hand knowledge of her subject the lecture was one of the most valuable that we have had. The apprentices and staff of the Brooklyn public library were invited to the lecture. The students had an opportunity of meeting Miss Ahern at tea afterwards.

The last lecturer of the term was Miss Mary L. Titcomb, librarian of the Washington County free library, Hagerstown, Md., who spoke to the students

on the work of that library. The story of Miss Titcomb's book-wagon as told by herself has an immediate human appeal to which each class responds and from which they never fail to gain both pleasure and inspiration.

Alumni notes

In preliminary announcement just received of the proposed establishment of a library school by the State library of California, we note that Sarah S. Oddie, '94, head of the catalog department at the State library, is to be in charge of the school.

Nathalie A. Maurice, '06, has been made an assistant in the East Orange, (N. J.), public library.

Louise M. Fernald, '07, who had been temporarily in charge of the library at Great Falls, Montana, during the past year, has recently been made librarian.

Louisa O. Bleecker, '11, who has been since graduation first assistant at the Public library of Madison, N. J., has been made head cataloger of the Elizabeth, (N. J.), public library.

Sybil Barney, '11, has taken a position in the Milwaukee public library, the functions of which include supervision of the apprentice class, selection of books on history, sociology, biography and travel, and the making of annotated lists.

JOSEPHINE ADAMS RATHBONE,
Vice-director.

Syracuse university

The practice work of the students in the Library school has been extended this year to the Syracuse public library.

During the annual meeting of the New York state teachers' association held in Syracuse November 24-26, the State education department provided an exhibit of books and library aids designed for the use of primary, grammar-school and high-school students. The exhibit occupied three rooms in one of the city high-schools and was in the care of students from the Syracuse library school.

During November Miss Zachert of Rochester public library, lectured before the school on Children's work.

E. E. SPERRY.

Western Reserve university

On November 14, the class was invited to hear Mrs Thorne-Thomsen give one of her lectures on fairy tales before the training class of the Cleveland public library.

Miss Ella Louise Smith, state organizer for Ohio, visited the school on November 21 and spoke informally to the students.

The second of the out-of-town library trips was taken on December 5. The class spent the day in Youngstown, and were royally entertained by Miss Morse and her staff. The students visited the main library in the morning and the South high school in the afternoon.

The news of the death of Richard A. Lavell, '06, came as a great shock to his many friends not only in the school, of which he was an honored alumnus, but to his circle of library friends in Cleveland.

ALICE S. TYLER,
Director.

New schools

A preliminary announcement of the California state library school has been issued. It is proposed to establish in January, 1914, a library school at the California state library. The school will offer to carefully selected students a one-year course in library economy, using the State library (165,000 v.) for laboratory work.

The course of study will include the usual technical subjects and general problems of library administration, but the broader educational and literary side of the work will receive special attention.

Arrangements have been made by which practical experience in public library methods will be obtained in libraries throughout the state. No tuition will be charged for this course of instruction.

An entrance examination was held the first week in December, under direction of the California state civil service commission.

A bulletin announcing the library school has been issued, and gives full information.

The teachers and lecturers provide a

list of notable people not only in library work but in civic and government relations, which ought to make the course both interesting and helpful.

A six weeks' course in library training will be offered by the Public library of Riverside, Cal., J. F. Daniels, librarian, during the months of January and February next. The course is intended for those with some library experience. The fee for the course is \$25.

Joseph F. Daniels, librarian of the Riverside public library, will have charge and such library workers as James F. Gillis, Ida M. Mendenhall, Mary E. Robbins and Helen L. Coffin are included in the list of 27 workers.

A series of lectures on "Bibliography and the use of reference books," will be given by A. G. S. Josephson, of the John Crerar library, during the months of January, February and March, 1914, as part of a course of lectures on "Books and libraries," offered by the Scandia academy, 3358 Broadway, Chicago.

The lectures will be given in the Society room of the John Crerar library on Monday evenings.

A New Course at Western Reserve University**The public library and community welfare**

The Library school of Western Reserve university offers a new course with the beginning of the second term, February 9, on "The public library and community welfare."

This course is given to meet the requirements of present day conditions and enable the librarian to fulfill the obligations of the library to the community in which it exists. The many organizations for civic and social betterment welcome the active coöperation of the public library and the librarian should be equipped for giving such coöperation in an effective and constructive manner. The city of Cleveland affords an unusually favorable field for observation and laboratory work in this connection, as its many agencies for social betterment (about 53) are united in the Federation of Charity and Philanthropy and the

Cleveland public library system, through its admirable branches, is in active touch with these organizations throughout the city. Opportunity will be afforded for a survey of neighborhood and community conditions in connection with one of the Cleveland branch libraries, to ascertain its educational and cultural surroundings and influences, which would effect its work.

This course will be given by the director of the school, with visiting lecturers for special phases of the subject.

Notes from Foreign Sources

Denmark

The Dürerbund is making some earnest efforts to give the people a chance to buy books both good and cheap, but without consulting the German booktrade, and is having some difficulties. The public is the "suffering third party," and is not yet realizing the benefits of the Dürerbund's well meant activities.

Let the daily press continue to teach the people that they should spend as much time as possible in reading, and in reading good things. But we should not chase people from actual work to books, nor make people bookworms. No, but we should seek to give them an increasing taste for reading and a decreasing inclination to empty pleasures and idle talk.—J. V. Christensen (in *Bogsamlingsbladet*, Copenhagen).

Germany

The Gesellschaft für Verbreitung von Volksbildung (Society for the extension of popular education), Berlin, which has 13,148 members, of which 7,520 are associations and 5,628 are individuals, coöperates in the establishing of libraries, reading rooms and schools, sends out lecturers, publishes a periodical, etc. Since 1897 it has sent out 8,000 traveling libraries with 400,000 volumes, has established in all 4,000 new popular libraries with 24,000 volumes, and furthermore has aided 19,500 libraries with money. In the 15 years it has sent out a million and a quarter books in the German empire. The association also owns a large collection of stereopticon

outfits and pictures, which it lends all over the country. In addition it has a traveling theater with expert actors, who represent instructive, chiefly classical plays. The moving spirit is the general secretary, J. Tews.

The Oeffentliche Bibliothek und Lese-halle (Public library and reading room), Berlin S. O., reports for the year 1911-12 that 69,012 volumes were lent for home use, 34.45 per cent of these being books that were scientific in the broad sense. The reading room had 65,898 users during the year. There was an increasing demand for instructive books. A systematic attempt is made to aid readers in the choice of reading matter without arousing sensitiveness against being influenced or taught. Each day an exhibit is made of works introductory to the various branches of knowledge, or on important questions of the day. This exhibit is changed daily; it keeps the resources of the library continually before the eyes of the visitor, and gives him a chance to judge of books for himself before drawing them out.

Firms in Germany and Austria in increasing numbers are providing libraries for their employes and their families. Entertaining books of various sorts and technical books pertinent to the work of the individual factory are the leading features of these libraries. Prominent among these factory libraries is that of Friedrich Krupp in Essen, containing 74,600 volumes, and circulating over half a million books annually.

M. Jean Homolle, the newly appointed librarian of the Bibliotheque Nationale in Paris, was formerly manager of the National museums of France, and consequently in charge of the Louvre when the celebrated masterpiece of da Vinci, Mona Lisa, disappeared. Although M. Homolle was absent at the time, public opinion was so strong against him that he was relieved of his office. Although the celebrated masterpiece has been recovered doubtless Monsieur Homolle will remain with the famous library. The collection contains over 4,000,000 books, over 2,000,000 engravings, and thousands upon thousands of medals, maps and manuscripts.

News from the Field**East**

Mary A. Richardson, N. Y. S. L. S. '89, of the staff of Wesleyan University library, died at Middletown, Conn., on December 8. Miss Richardson had been actively engaged in library work for many years as cataloger, classifier and indexer for brief periods and as librarian of Atlanta University and of the New London (Conn.) public library. Her connection with the staff of Wesleyan University dated from December, 1906.

The annual report of the Public library of Haverhill, Mass., records books in the library, 99,000; circulation, 184,652, per capita, 4.1 v.; fiction, 72 per cent; card holders, 19,324; population, 45,000. Receipts, \$21,633; expenditures, \$21,161. Salaries, \$9,809.

The working schedule has been changed from 43 to 41 hours a week, the year around. Vacation is four weeks with sick leave of two weeks. Some advancements in salaries were made.

A small exhibit illustrating shoe making, the local industry, was added. It is planned to make the Washington Square branch especially a business men's branch.

Many books were added to aid foreigners in learning English. An experiment in window advertising was most successful.

Central Atlantic

Dr Andrew Carnegie passed his seventy-eighth birthday on November 25.

Mrs C. M. Charles, formerly librarian of Foxburg, has been made librarian of Ellwood City, Pa.

Anna Perkins, librarian of the Public library at Ilion, N. Y., has resigned her position on account of ill health. Her successor has not yet been named.

Susan R. Clendenin, Pratt, 1901 and 1904, has received the appointment of librarian-in-charge of the Falls of the Schuylkill branch of the Philadelphia public library.

A new branch of the Utica public library was opened in East Utica, N. Y., November 15. The occasion was one of considerable interest, particularly on the part of the children.

The new library building at Perkiomen seminary, Pennsburg, Pa., a gift of Andrew Carnegie, was dedicated November 20. The speakers of the occasion were President John G. Hibben, of Princeton university, and S. W. Penny-packer, ex-Governor of Pennsylvania.

The Administration committee has been authorized by the Board of Trustees of the Brooklyn public library to use the auditoriums of the Carnegie building for moving picture shows of an educational character, illustrating history, biography, travel, outdoor sports, etc.

The Falls of Schuylkill branch of the Free library of Philadelphia, was dedicated November 25. This was the fifteenth branch provided by the Carnegie gift, of 30 branches which it is expected will be erected. Sites for 12 of the 15 branches have been gifts from private citizens, and the other three were donated by Council. Several of these branches are already congested, and an effort will be made in future building to relieve pressure on them before occupying new territory.

Franklin F. Hopper, for five years librarian of the Public library of Tacoma, Wash., has resigned his position to become connected with the New York public library. He will become chief of the Order division of the New York public library January 1. The library board passed resolutions expressing regret at his departure, and commended in the highest terms his services for the Public library of Tacoma. During his time, the library was re-organized and re-catalogued, and the circulation extended from 101,741 v. in 1908, to 355,946 v. for the year 1913.

Central

The Public library of Milwaukee, in the South division branch, is going to

try a plan of telling stories by phonograph for the children.

Katherine Doyle, formerly connected with the Allerton public library, Monticello, Ill., has taken charge of the Public library at Mt. Vernon, Ill., for one year. She will reclassify and recatalog the library during this time.

Miss Esther McNitt has been appointed assistant in the history department of the Indiana state library. Marcia Furness has been engaged as assistant in the cataloging department of the same library.

A branch of the Public library of Des Moines, Ia., is to be opened in University Place. The board has set aside \$2,000 for the branch. The Public library has 65,104 v. on its shelves; circulation was 317,254 v. of which 46 per cent was adult fiction.

Mrs Ella R. Heatwole, for more than 10 years librarian of the Public library at Goshen, Ind., has resigned and will retire from active work. Elizabeth Brockwell, who has been assistant since the library was started, has been elected her successor.

Exercises commemorative of the long service of Dr Reuben Gold Thwaites to the State historical society of Wisconsin, were held in the State capitol on Friday, November 19. The memorial address was delivered by Frederick J. Turner, LL. D., of Harvard university.

The two branch library buildings of the Public library of Dayton, O., have been stocked with books by an additional gift of \$15,000 made by Andrew Carnegie to remedy the conditions caused by the flood. The branches will start with some 10,000 to 12,000 books for reference and circulation, January 1, 1914.

The Board of trustees of the Reuben MacMillan free library, Youngstown, O., has decided, in view of the appropriation for the coming year, which will be \$6,000 less than the actual expense for carrying on the library, to open the library for nine months, and shut down entirely during the summer. The de-

cision will close not only the central building but the branches also.

Dr W. Dawson Johnston has resigned his position as librarian of Columbia university, New York City, to accept the appointment of librarian of the Public library of St. Paul, Minn.

Dr Johnston succeeded the late Dr James H. Canfield as librarian of Columbia university, July, 1909. Dr Johnston was graduated from Brown university in 1893, took his Master of Arts at Harvard in 1898, and received the honor degree of LL. D. from Rutgers college in 1911.

Richard A. Lavell, for the past three years assistant librarian of the Public library of Minneapolis, having charge of all the branch libraries, died at his home in Minneapolis November 29.

Mr Lavell lived in the Northwest all his life, coming at an early age from Canada to North Dakota. He was graduated from the University of Minnesota in 1904. The next year he took the work of the Library school at Western Reserve university at Cleveland, and then entered the Public library at Minneapolis. For the past three years he has been assistant-librarian and had a promising future before him.

Mrs Helen J. McCaine, retiring chief librarian of the Public library of St. Paul, Minn., has been with the Public library for 40 years. She has served the community faithfully and satisfactorily during this long period, but she does not wish to assume the responsibility attendant upon re-organization and the erection of a new library building.

When St. Paul supported a subscription library under the name of an association, Mrs McCaine was in charge of it. Since then, the library has grown from a few thousand volumes to 150,000.

Mrs McCaine retires full of honors, and with the affectionate regard and respect of all with whom she came in contact.

She is a native of Peterboro, N. H. born in 1836, and is a graduate of the Peterboro academy. She was married

to William McCaine in 1865. He died in 1900. They came to St. Paul in 1871 and she began her work six years later.

South

A permanent exhibit by the Fine arts department of the city federation of women's clubs, St. Joseph, Mo., has been opened at the Public library building.

An interesting report is made of the Free library of Waynesburg, Va., which is, perhaps, the second, and certainly the third, wholly public library in the State of Virginia.

The library was started through the efforts of Mrs E. H. Stevens, who interested a number of citizens in the matter, with such success that the Town council has been induced to give assistance, and the future of the library seems bright.

There are at present 1,407 books on the shelves, of which there was a circulation for the past year of 7,692.

West

The first township library in North Dakota was opened in Leonard, November 27. It was made the occasion of considerable interest, the governor of the state, L. B. Hanna, being the principal speaker of the day.

The building and grounds, together with 700 volumes, were given by Edgerton Watts as a memorial to his wife.

The people have voted a tax for the support of the library, and its prospects for the future are bright.

Pacific Coast

A gift of \$25,000 for library purposes under the will of the late Robert Gracie has been made to Merced, California.

Mirpah G. Blair, formerly with the Public library, Cincinnati, O., later with the State university library, has removed to Oregon, and taken up work with the Oregon State library at Salem.

Helen S. Watson has been chosen as children's librarian of the new Queen Anne branch of the Seattle public library. Miss Watson had a year of training in the Pittsburgh training school for children's librarians and is a graduate of the College for women, Cleveland.

Mary B. Hunter succeeds Annie E. Hall as children's librarian of the University branch of the Seattle public library, Miss Hall having been transferred to the Columbus branch as librarian. Miss Hunter is a graduate of the Pittsburgh training school for children's librarians and of Mt. Holyoke college.

Agnes F. P. Greer, Pratt '08, has been appointed librarian of the Ballard branch of the Seattle public library to succeed Stella R. Hoyt who resigned September 1 to be married. Miss Greer comes to Seattle from Pittsburgh where she has been on the staff of the Carnegie library for about six years.

Frances Louise Holmes is to be the librarian of the Queen Anne branch of the Seattle public library which is expected to be ready for opening early in December of this year. Miss Holmes is a graduate of Knox college and received her training in library work from the Wisconsin library commission. She had two and a half years of experience in Oregon libraries before going to Seattle.

Foreign

Mr P. Barr, at one time assistant in the National library at Glasgow, has been appointed librarian of the Public library, Outland, New Zealand. He succeeds Mr E. Skillington, who is retiring after many years of active service.

This is the second important post in New Zealand that has gone to young Britishers this year, Mr Bell from Fulham, London, having been appointed to the Christchurch public library. These accessions should mean much to the library service of New Zealand.

The librarian of Dunedin, New Zealand, is Mr W. B. MacEwan, one time librarian of the Public library, Stirling, Scotland.

The city council of Wellington, New Zealand, has agreed to further extend the Public library, which has become greatly overcrowded. The proposed work will provide storage room for about 16,000 volumes, and also improve the staff room.